



# MANDAN, HIDATSA & ARIKARA NATION

Three Affiliated Tribes \* Fort Berthold Indian Reservation  
Tribal Business Council

April 19, 2017

The Honorable Heidi Heitkamp  
United States Senate  
110 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

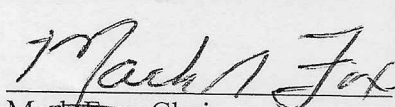
Honorable John Hoeven  
United States Senate  
338 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510


## Re: Joint Resolution Regarding the BLM Venting and Flaring Rule.

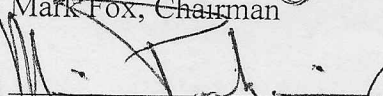
Dear Senators Hoeven and Heitkamp:

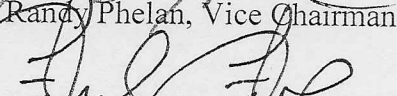
The Tribal Business Council of the Mandan Hidatsa and Arikara Nation (MHA Nation) is aware of a Joint Resolution providing for congressional disapproval of the final rule of the Bureau of Land Management relating to "Waste Prevention, Production Subject to Royalties, and Resource Conservation." This letter provides our official position regarding the proposed Joint Resolution.

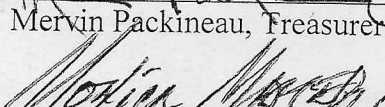
We do not believe that Congress should disapprove the Rule in total because responsible and effective regulation of venting and flaring of methane gas from oil and gas development on the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation is necessary. Instead, we ask that Congress direct the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to revise its rule to address the concerns and incorporate the revisions requested in my letter to Senator Heitkamp dated February 7, 2017. Specifically, the BLM regulation must expressly defer to and support tribal regulation of venting and flaring in Indian Country according to standards established by the Tribe. Indian lands are not public lands and it is inappropriate to regulate activities on Indian lands according to public lands standards.

  
Mark Fox, Chairman

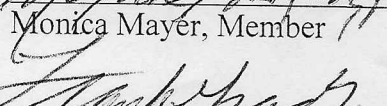
  
Randy Phelan, Vice Chairman

  
Mervin Packineau, Treasurer

  
Fred Fox, Secretary

  
Monica Mayer, Member

  
Cory Spotted Bear, Member

  
Frank Grady, Member