

# Nebraska State Legislature

**SENATOR CAROL BLOOD**

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## COMMITTEES

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Urban Affairs

October 26, 2021

Jim Macy  
Director of the Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy  
245 Fallbrook Blvd  
Lincoln, NE 68521

Director Macy,

I would like to once again thank you for your timely responses to the letters I and my colleagues have sent you over the last few months. I know your time is valuable and I'm appreciative.

I am reaching out to you today because over the last few weeks, multiple issues of concern have come to my attention that I feel need to be addressed.

In regards to the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit NEP110000 for Pesticides Applications To, Over, or Near Waters of the State of Nebraska; I know that the comment period for that permit renewal just ended, and it's expected it will get approved again. I'm wondering if you could tell me how many, if any, entities are operating under that permit; as well as who?

Additionally, the recent heavy rains have me gravely concerned about the progress and process of the cleanup and mitigation in Mead. I am hoping that you have a specific plan in place that your department utilizes when extreme weather conditions like that occur. It's almost a certainty that won't be the only period this fall that we see rain like that. I am requesting that you please share what has been done during this process to avoid any additional damage in light of the recent weather. What is the standard plan you have in place when this issue arises in the future?

Lastly, I am interested to know if NDEE has tested the lagoons located at the Mead Cattle Company site for pesticide levels in that standing water? Please explain your plan to address the runoff at that site.

It is my hope that the answers to these questions can help address concerns being expressed by people in and around the Mead community. With the prospects of more severe weather quite high the closer we get to the winter, I'd appreciate a response to these questions no later than November 5, 2021. Once again, I am appreciative of your time and thank you in advance for any information you can provide on this topic.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Senator Carol Blood".

Senator Carol Blood  
District 3