



# Nezperce Prairie Grass Growers Association

*Pride of the Prairie - We Make Your World Green*

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June 28, 2018

Director John Tippetts  
DEQ State Office  
1410 N. Hilton  
Boise, ID 83706

Docket No. 58-0101-1803 - Negotiated Rule Making

Director Tippetts,

The Nezperce Prairie Grass Growers Association, representing blue grass seed producers in five northern Idaho counties, appreciates the opportunity to comment on Docket No. 58-0101-1803 and the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality's initiation of the negotiated rules process. Based on the recommendation of the Crop Residue Advisory Committee to allow producers to pay required fees after the burn season, the Nezperce Prairie Grass Growers Association supports the proposed rule.

The benefit of proposed rule would provide a more precise payment structure based on acres burned as well as allow DEQ a more streamlined administrative process. Since the fee structure will not be changed, we see no hazard in adopting a temporary rule and implementing changes prior to the 2019 spring burning season to avoid interruption of the burn season.

We are committed to supporting a high-quality burn program and the grass growing community has taken comfort and great pride in knowing that there have not been adverse health effects while the program has been in place. Our farmers have always taken ownership of keeping our communities healthy and the Nezperce Prairie Grass Growers Association thanks you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Greg Branson, President

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