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PRESS STATEMENT

Western Family Agriculture and Conservation Group Opposes David Bernhardt's Nomination for Interior Secretary

Former lobbyist tapped to lead Interior Department despite significant conflicts of interest

Billings, Mont. -- In response to David Bernhardt's confirmation hearing before the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee today, WORC Chairperson Linda Weiss provides the following statement and [letter](#) opposing his nomination for the position of Secretary of the Department of the Interior:

“David Bernhardt has too many conflicts of interest to lead the Department of the Interior. As Secretary, David Bernhardt would have to work exclusively for the American people, but his actions at Interior to date show he is unwilling to keep his former clients at arm's length. Westerners deserve real leadership, not someone so compromised that he must carry a notecard to remind himself of all his conflicts of interest.”

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Linda Weiss is the Chair of WORC. She lives in Belfield, North Dakota.

The Western Organization of Resource Councils (WORC) is a network of grassroots organizations that span seven of the Western states with more than 15,000 members. Many WORC members live on lands overlying and neighboring federal, tribal, state and privately owned oil and gas deposits, and experience impacts from federal oil and gas production. Headquartered in Billings, Montana, WORC also has offices in Colorado and Washington, D.C.