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**national farmers union**  
*In Union Is Strength*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **NFU OPPOSES ORDER-IN-COUNCIL REGULATION CHANGE ON BARLEY**

The National Farmers Union (NFU) is speaking out strongly against proposed regulatory changes to the Canadian Wheat Board (CWB) Regulations which would remove barley marketing from the CWB single desk. The proposed amendments, published April 21 in the Canada Gazette, are subject to public comment until May 21.

NFU President Stewart Wells said the timing of the posting of the regulatory amendments is no coincidence, as most prairie farmers are either out on the land or gearing up for seeding. "There is only a short thirty-day window for public comments on these regulations," he noted. "But it is clear from its past actions that this government will stop at nothing to eliminate the CWB single desk."

In its 11-page document, the NFU outlines in detail its objections to the proposed amendments to the Regulations. It deals specifically with ten fundamental flaws in the recent barley plebiscite. "These flaws are so serious that they render the plebiscite itself illegitimate," stated Wells. "The flaws include irregularities in the voters list, lack of ballot secrecy, lack of third party spending limits, and many others."

Beyond concerns over the barley plebiscite, the NFU document goes on to specify thirteen instances where the federal government instituted "anti-democratic measures" in an effort to push through its so-called "marketing choice" agenda. These measures include a gag order on the CWB and its elected Directors to prevent a defense of the single-desk sales advantage, the unjust firing of CWB President and CEO Adrian Measner, the stacking of the CWB Board of Directors with anti-single desk appointees, and tampering with CWB Director elections.

"On the basis of the details outlined in the document, and in the interests of the economic and democratic futures of farmers in western Canada, the NFU requests that the Governor-in-Council decline to endorse the Regulation amending the Canadian Wheat Board Regulations," concluded Wells.

A full copy of the NFU Submission in Response to the Regulations to Amend the Canadian Wheat Board Regulations is available upon request.

- 30 -

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