

Highwater Ethanol, LLC

Pictured: Mike Landuyt – Board member, Brian Kletscher - CEO, Senator Tina Smith, Shane Rasset – Plant Manager, Luke Schneider - CFO, Ron Jorgenson - Board member, Tim Apitz – Lab Manager and Lisa Landkammer - EHS Manager.

Senator Tina Smith visited Highwater Ethanol on Thursday, May 30, 2019 to meet with Brian Kletscher, CEO, the Highwater Management Team and Board Members at Highwater Ethanol. They visited about her work in supporting the agricultural industry, including support for ethanol and E15 approval. {Which was approved by EPA for year - round use on May 31, 2019} Senator Smith talked about concerns of the planting progress and the steps being taken at the Federal level. Included in this conversation was the concern over the financial stability and the mental health of the agricultural industry including farmers, ranchers, main street business owners and ag industry. Senator Smith and the group also visited about the foreign trade policy and the importance of having a trade agreement with Canada, Mexico and China. Senator Smith will continue to work hard for the for Rural Minnesota and Ag industry and recognized the economic issues at this time, she will continue to support the ethanol industry and the use of higher blends.

Please see the press release from Senator Smith below: in regards to E15

Sen. Smith Lauds EPA's Lifting of Summertime E15 Ban

Senator Says Move Responds to Her Long-Time Push to Expand Nation's Use

Of Renewable Fuels, Increase Demand for Minnesota Farm Products

U.S. Sen. Tina Smith (D-Minn.) lauded the lifting of the E15 ban, a move that will expand the use of ethanol in the nation's fuel supply during the summer

"Farmers in Minnesota and across the country have been hit hard by low farm prices and recent trade uncertainties that have pushed prices even lower," Sen. Smith said. "This rule change—something I've long fought for--will increase demand for farm products, bolster our farm communities, all while expanding the use of renewable fuels nationwide."

Senator Smith, a member of the Agriculture committee, has consistently pushed for the EPA to lift the summertime E-15 ban. In September of last year, Sen. Smith wrote a letter to <u>President Trump</u>, specifically outlining the expansion of the E-15 standard as an important step to expanding markets for agriculture products.