

Statement on Badgerland Financial's Investment Request
Kenneth A. Spearman, Board Member
November 22, 2013

Mission-related investments are allowed under the investment authorities of the Farm Credit Act of 1971. These investments also help fulfill one of Congress' stated objectives "to provide for an adequate and flexible flow of money into rural areas." Farm Credit System mission-related investments have proven to be important resources in rural community economic development and for start-up capital for agriculture-related business. I believe these activities are appropriate for Farm Credit System institutions to engage in by helping to improve the well-being of, and create opportunities in, the rural communities where the farmer- and rancher-owners of the System institutions live.

The staff at FCA continues to do a good job of ensuring that Farm Credit System investments are appropriate and focused. As we consider future mission-related investment requests from the Farm Credit System, my attention will be on investments that focus on specific rural community development, and businesses and industries to create jobs in rural communities. Of course, Farm Credit System investments should never interfere with the System's core mission of meeting the credit needs of all creditworthy borrowers and must be safe and sound.