



Briefing Notice

Fertile Ground for Reform:

A Research Roadmap for Agricultural Nitrogen Pollution

Thursday, July 16, 2026 • 12:00 - 1:30 PM EDT

Online Only

Please RSVP @ eesi.org/071626nitro#rsvp

Live webcast will be streamed at eesi.org/livecast



The **Environmental and Energy Study Institute (EESI)** and the **Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)** invite you to an online briefing about tracking and reducing agricultural nitrous oxide, a major greenhouse gas. Nitrogen is a key component in fertilizer, making it critical to food security. Unfortunately, due to overapplication, only about **half** of nitrogen fertilizer is actually absorbed by crops. This leads to high levels of nitrous oxide emissions and threatens drinking water, ecosystems, and public health. Nitrous oxide has a global warming potential **273 times** greater than carbon dioxide over 100 years and is the **primary driver** of stratospheric ozone depletion, increasing UV exposure and associated health risks. Nitrous oxide measurement, monitoring, reporting, and verification mechanisms are essential to reducing these emissions and supporting profitable and sustainable farm management.

This briefing will showcase findings from a new **research roadmap** that identifies opportunities for measuring and reducing agricultural nitrous oxide emissions. Panelists will pinpoint areas of innovation, as well as opportunities for reducing uncertainty, improving accuracy, bringing down costs for farmers, and reducing nitrogen loss from fields. The briefing will also help policymakers identify research and development needs, and highlight the role of federal and state legislatures in improving environmental, economic, and public health across the country.

Speakers for this session include:

- ▶ **Rachel Opitz**, Program Manager, Geospatial Innovation for Food Security, Taylor Geospatial
- ▶ **Matthew Kaplan**, Senior Attorney, Water and Agriculture Nature Program, Natural Resources Defense Council
- ▶ **More speakers to be announced**

This event is free and open to the public.

For more information, contact Daniel O'Brien at dobrien@eesi.org or (202) 662-1880.

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