



MONTANA
Department of
AGRICULTURE

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SENATE STATE ADMIN.

EXHIBIT NO. 1

DATE 1-28-05

CTRL. NO. _____

Brian Schweitzer
Governor

Nancy K. Peterson
Director

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Biography of **Nancy K. Peterson** Montana Department of Agriculture

Nancy Peterson was appointed director of the Montana Department of Agriculture by Governor Brian Schweitzer on January 3, 2005. Born in Havre, Montana, and raised on the family homestead in Hill County, Nancy graduated from KG (Kremlin-Gildford) High School and has carried on her family's tradition of farming and ranching while also serving as an emergency medical technician, school board director, church organist and in countless other volunteer positions.

Nancy served as chair of the USDA Farm Service Agency State Committee in Montana from 1992-2000. Her agricultural experience includes more than 30 years as a farm and ranch owner/operator, producer of livestock, winter wheat, barley, oats, peas, lentils, canola, chick peas, mustard, flax and safflower. She operated a private grain laboratory in Havre for two years, grading and testing protein levels of small grains. The family farm corporation, of which she is majority stockholder, has cooperated with the Northern Ag Research Center at Havre since the late 1970s on projects including variety trials, sawfly resistance, integrated pest management and the use of global position systems (GPS) to map protein and nitrogen levels.

Nancy served as an Emergency Medical Technician State Board examiner for two years. In addition to rural health, first responder and EMT training, she has taken numerous courses in agricultural finance and planning, futures options and marketing, integrated pest management, pesticide certification and other agriculture-related subjects.

She has two sons, Kody and Kyle, and three grandchildren.