

From: Sandra J [mailto:drsje@tctelco.net]

Sent: Monday, March 23, 2009 5:45 PM

To: Comments

Cc: jerry.moran@mail.house.gov; pat_roberts@roberts.senate.gov; sam_brownback@brownback.senate.gov

Subject: Assessments, RIN 3064-AD35

The First National Bank of Hope is a small community bank of \$40 million dollars located in a town of 400 people in north central Kansas. We service primarily agriculture loans. Our main street looks like many small communities across the country. We still have a K- through 12 school system, but it also is a struggle to maintain.

The FDIC's proposal of a special assessment of 20 basis points will create an additional burden on small community banks to maintain profitability and contribute monetary support to our community. I disagree with the proposed plan, but do agree that the Deposit Insurance Fund (DIF) should remain funded to insure confidence in the nation's banking system.

Having to pay this 20 basis point special assessment on top of our already increased regular assessment is a penalty on community banks for risky lending practices they had nothing to do with.

Community banks have remained well capitalized through these difficult times and continue to service the credit needs of their communities. This special assessment will have a negative effect on our capital and ability to fund these loan requests.

In addition to the already doubled assessment, the 20 basis point special assessment could reduce our earnings by approximately 17 percent. This would be a negative trend viewed by our regulators.

Our request would be that the FDIC consider other ways to fund the DIF. Assessment based on total assets would be a suggestion or a systemic-risk premium for "systemically important" banks might be better. If community banks are forced to take on the burden for the actions of others, rules should be changed to allow banks to amortize the special assessment over a period of years.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this situation and I hope you will consider other methods to fund the DIF.

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