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## **NARA Featured at National Press Club Panel on ‘Turning Waste into Rural Revenues’**

*Swisher: “Welcome to our world! Renderers have been doing nutrient repurposing since the 1800s”*

**ALEXANDRIA, VA, March 18, 2024** – NARA President & CEO Kent Swisher appeared today at the Agri-Pulse Ag & Food Policy Summit at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C. and was a panelist on the topic of “Turning Waste into Rural Revenues.”

NARA’s President and CEO, Kent Swisher, told the audience that he was pleased to see carbon recycling and nutrient capture being highlighted during the summit. He said, “Welcome to our world. Renderers have been doing nutrient repurposing 1800s.”

Moderator Spencer Chase of Agri-Pulse invited the panelists to introduce themselves and their companies/organizations involved in waste transformation. Panelists included:

- Janicki, Chief Revenue Officer Sedron Technologies
- Samuel Liebl, Director of Sustainability and Communications, Denali
- Scott Kalb, Co-Founder & Chairman, KLTi Advisors
- Kent Swisher, President & CEO, NARA

The panelists talked about the need for more clarity on policy issues such as tax incentive programs and environmental regulation in order for innovation to continue and agri-businesses involved in nutrient capture and food waste reduction to thrive. Swisher said, “If the end goal is a reduction in carbon emissions and food waste and loss, then our government programs shouldn’t be picking winners and losers. We need a technology-neutral approach that allows all industries to flourish because it will take all of us to reach our climate action goals.”

Other notable speakers during the summit included U.S. Dept. of Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack, Senate Agricultural Committee Chairwoman Debbie Stabenow (D-WI) and Senate Agricultural Committee Ranking Member John Boozman (R-MT).

The event was a series of panel discussions and keynote speakers focused on a variety of topics contributing to the theme: “Revitalizing Rural Revenues.” Speakers and panelists covered a wide variety of ways that people who live and work in Rural America are developing innovative new products from the land and finding creative ways to start businesses.

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### **About the North American Renderers Association**

The North American Renderers Association (NARA) represents the interests of the North American rendering industry to regulatory and other governmental agencies, promotes the greater use of animal byproducts, and fosters the opening and expansion of trade between foreign buyers and North American exporters. In addition to its U.S.-based headquarters, the association maintains offices in Mexico and Hong Kong, and has market consultants in strategic locations around the world. NARA publishes a bi-monthly trade magazine, *Render*. For more information, visit [www.nara.org](http://www.nara.org).