

**From:** Mark Heinemann [mailto:mheinemann@farmersstatebankmn.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 03, 2009 1:00 PM  
**To:** Comments  
**Subject:** FDIC Special Assessment

To Whom It May Concern,

I recently read your press release about the special insurance assessment of 20 basis points that will be paid in September 2009. I was extremely disappointed and disheartened to hear about this. On top of all the economic troubles, negative press, customer fear, and an uncertain regulatory environment we now have to deal with another significant blow to capital. Congress, the public, and the media are screaming at us to lend. My bank has been lending up till now. We still have financing for our farmers to put in this year's crop, we still have working capital lines for our local business owners, and we still have credit available to worthy consumer borrowers. That is going to be threatened by a further decrease to our lending capacity by a loss of capital for this special assessment.

I distinctly feel punished for not participating in the risky lending practices of the big commercial and investment banks. We had moderate income, reasonable salaries, and the occasional bonus throughout the housing boom. The other guys had record profits, corporate jets, extravagant corporate getaways, and exorbitant incentive compensation packages, all the while laughing at the conservative small banks that knew their borrowers, made reasonable loans, and did what was best for their community.

I realize that these same high flying investment bankers and commercial bank executives are at the lowest point in their lives right now. Many have lost their jobs, their institutions are bankrupt or nearly so, and they are universally vilified in the media. That can't be easy, however they deserve much of the hardship they are now experiencing. My bank does not deserve this hardship. Prudently managing your business to avoid the boom-bust cycle should be rewarded rather than punished by having us lumped in with those who caused this catastrophe.

There is no easy answer here, however I believe you will seriously injure current economic recovery efforts by assessing this penalty on surviving banks. Perhaps the interest paid on CPP money could go towards replenishing this fund. That would put the burden on those banks whom received government funding and not put additional strain on razor thin budgets.

I wish you the best in working through these problems and encourage a solution that does not hamper the growth efforts in our community.

Mark Heinemann  
Chief Information Officer  
Farmers State Bank of Hartland  
(507) 373-1945, Fax (507) 373-1949