

**Statement of FCA Chairman and CEO Leland A. Strom  
Regarding Board-Approved Policy Statement 81  
on Ethics, Independence, Arm's-Length Role, Ex Parte Communications  
and Open Government  
November 8, 2011**

This week the Farm Credit Administration (FCA) approved by notational vote a written policy statement reaffirming the Agency's commitment to an arm's-length policy ([Policy Statement 81](#), "Ethics, Independence, Arm's-Length Role, Ex Parte Communications and Open Government"). I want to acknowledge the efforts of Board Member Jill Long Thompson in initiating a discussion about the need to have such a policy in writing, and in bringing it to a successful conclusion. The policy is consistent with existing conduct rules. It brings together in one convenient location all existing ethics rules, guidance documents, and regulations for ease of use.

FCA is leading the way as one of the first agencies to issue an arm's-length policy document. We are committed to carrying out our responsibilities in the most ethical manner—ensuring that all of our stakeholders may conduct business with us on equal footing. This statement serves as our public proclamation of that commitment.