

From: burkhalter@wwest.net
To: [Jennings, Jonathan \(ECY\)](#)
Cc: WSDF@msn.com
Subject: CAFO draft permit comments
Date: Friday, September 25, 2015 9:43:44 AM

The CAFO draft permit would cause severe financial loss to our dairy.

If we can not spread within 35 feet of any waters this would eliminate approximately 25% of our farm land. This would cause a reduction in feed and grazing practices. This would increase our cost to obtain more feed for our livestock. This would cause us to decrease our herd considerably to have enough pasture to maintain our organic status.

A majority of our farm's acres are on converted wetlands, before 1985. Our farm would be diminished to approximately 50 acres (out of 500).

We currently do soil testing according to our Nutrient Management plan, which is monitored by the Department of Agriculture. These records are checked annually at our nutrient management inspection. Our soil testing records show there has never been a pollution problem on our farm.

The cost in bureaucracy and paperwork would be insurmountable to us.

We would be forced out of the dairy industry and our agriculture land would become worthless if this CAFO is implemented.

This proposed change has caused us to put all capital purchases on hold. We want to add to our infrastructure but at this point we are waiting to see if common sense prevails and this draft permit is eliminated. This has caused much undo stress and anxiety on us. We have followed the regulations and rules of our manure management plan. We put in a liquid manure holding structure under the supervision of the NRCS in the late 90's. If a double lined leak protection lagoon was needed they should have required it that time.

Sincerely,
Gary and Susan Burkhalter
Rosburg, WA

From: [Clifford, Denise \(ECY\)](#)
To: [Moore, Bill \(ECY\)](#); [Jennings, Jonathan \(ECY\)](#)
Subject: FW: Constituent NR: CAFO draft permit
Date: Friday, October 02, 2015 2:51:39 PM

FYI

-----Original Message-----

From: Rossetti, JD [<mailto:JD.Rossetti@leg.wa.gov>]
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2015 2:34 PM
To: Van Ness, Vickie (ECY)
Subject: RE: Constituent NR: CAFO draft permit

Thanks Vickie! No worries. If you could just make sure that someone is aware of the situation that would be great. If there is anything specific ECY would like me to relay to the constituent, I am happy to do that as well.

Thank you,

JD Rossetti
Legislative Assistant to
Representative Brian Blake
19th Legislative District
JD.Rossetti@leg.wa.gov

District Office:
1329 Broadway St. Suite 205
Longview, WA 98632
360-353-5241

Toll-Free Hotline:
1-800-562-6000
TDD: 1-800-635-9993

-----Original Message-----

From: Van Ness, Vickie (ECY) [<mailto:vvan461@ECY.WA.GOV>]
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2015 2:08 PM
To: Rossetti, JD <JD.Rossetti@leg.wa.gov>
Subject: RE: Constituent NR: CAFO draft permit

Hi, JD. I thought I had initially responded to you but I can't find a sent e-mail so I'm thinking maybe I didn't. I am so very sorry, if this is the case.

Would you like someone to contact you to update you on this issue or do you want someone to respond to the constituent directly? I notice at the bottom of this e-mail it says no response is required, which leads me to believe that you would like someone to contact you to explain the situation (?).

Please let me know what you would prefer. And again, I am so sorry if this is the first you're hearing from me.

Regards,

Vickie

Vickie Van Ness

Agency Legislative Coordinator
Department of Ecology
360/407-7008

-----Original Message-----

From: Rossetti, JD [<mailto:JD.Rossetti@leg.wa.gov>]
Sent: Friday, September 25, 2015 11:56 AM
To: Van Ness, Vickie (ECY)
Subject: FW: Constituent NR: CAFO draft permit

Good afternoon,

Could you please let me know if there is someone at Ecology who could assist with this constituent's concerns?

Thank you,

JD Rossetti
Legislative Assistant to
Representative Brian Blake
19th Legislative District
JD.Rossetti@leg.wa.gov

District Office:
1329 Broadway St. Suite 205
Longview, WA 98632
360-353-5241

Toll-Free Hotline:
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TDD: 1-800-635-9993

-----Original Message-----

From: burkhalter@wwest.net [<mailto:burkhalter@wwest.net>]
Sent: Friday, September 25, 2015 6:29 AM
To: Blake, Rep. Brian <Brian.Blake@leg.wa.gov>
Subject: Constituent NR: CAFO draft permit

HOUSE INTERNET E-MAIL DELIVERY SERVICE

TO: Brian Blake

FROM: susan burkhalter (Constituent)

STREET ADDRESS:
133 Barr Rd
Rosburg, WA 98643

E-MAIL: burkhalter@wwest.net

PHONE: (360) 465-2264

SUBJECT: CAFO draft permit

MESSAGE:

My husband and I have an organic dairy in Rosburg. The DOE is wanting to add more and more restrictions to manure management due to the groundwater issues in Yakima. Their proposal would put us out of business. We have done all the things the NRCS has required of us and yet now DOE wants to rewrite the rules. We will not be able to afford what they are requiring, both monetarily and in acreage lost to setbacks. We are now in limbo, waiting to see what they will do before we make any purchases or add to our infrastructure. Please speak for us. We are feeling helpless. DOE is not a friendly agency. When they were doing manure inspections (which is now done by the Department of Ag) the inspector told my husband that all puddles in the field are State water and can have no manure in them. As you can see, we are not dealing with common sense folk. Thank you for your efforts in saving dairy farming in this State.

Sincerely,
Susan Burkhalter

RESPONSE REQUESTED: No response required by the sender.