

Washington State Department of Ecology
C/O Jon Jennings
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September 24, 2015

RE: Comments on CAFO Draft Permit,

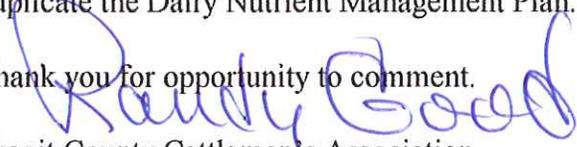
All efforts must be made to make sure the waters of the U.S are kept clean and safe for human use. It is humanly impossible to achieve pollution free waters because our waters are exposed to so many natural things in our world. However, this draft permit accuses dairy farmers and other livestock ranchers of causing pollution without proof. A review of credible studies that relied on field tested data shows that wildlife, avian and waterfowl along with human septics are the major contributors to pollution. DNA tests along with other tests to find sources in Skagit County also shows the same results.

Dept. of Ecology's desire to convict and regulate by potential to pollute has not and never will solve the source or sources of pollution as we have seen. DOE must change it's approach to finding the true source of pollution. Create a workable plan using DNA testing and real field tested science instead of political junk, computer modeling, assumptions and potential as DOE guidelines.

Peer reviewed studies clearly disprove the need for 35 foot buffers next to waterways. Studies show a advantage to graze or harvest grasses next to waterways. Growing grasses that are grazed or cut are a natural water filter.

The Dept. of Agriculture Dairy Nutrient Management Program is already accomplishing what appears to be DOE's goal for this permit. Why is DOE trying to undermine or duplicate the Dairy Nutrient Management Plan.

Thank you for opportunity to comment.


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