

Jonathan Jennings
WA State Dept of Ecology
Olympia ,WA



Dear Jonathan Jennings,

I am writing to you in regards to the CAFO proposal. It seems the DOE's reasoning to require all dairies to be under permit is the "assumption" that lagoons leak.

Lagoons, designed and engineered to NRCS standards.
Studies indicate that they don't leak.

Soil testing before every application seems somewhat counterproductive if trying to maximize weather opportunities and plant uptake.

COSTS \$

Setbacks, Have worked hard to pay for, and than cant use or claim??

Permit costs,\$

Liners,\$\$\$

Testing,\$

Equipment,\$

Managing,\$

So do I "ASSUME" the DOE's desire is to have more control by having another entity involved in our lives. WSDA is doing a fine job.

So do I "ASSUME" the state has no desire for Agriculture by more burdensome regulations .Fees, and assesments.

I have enjoyed being a part of the dairy business in Washington since my folks moved here in 1977. We have a couple of children with the same desire to dairy, but sometimes I get the feeling that energy of time and investments are better spent elsewhere.

Harold Van Berkum
1679 Timon Rd
Everson ,WA 98247

Oct. 2, '15

Dear Director Bellon:

We have heard many times in the last while from some of our farm leaders that you are a reasonable person, that you are not against farming in our state and that you are willing to do what you can to help farmers.

I want to believe this is true as it so important to know we have people in government who have at least some understanding of what we are up against as farmers. But if it is true, it can only be you were on vacation when your Department came out with its draft regulations on dairy lagoons. We can't imagine what they were thinking. It kind of seems the person writing the permit ~~took boilerplate~~ took boilerplate language from some big industrial facility or sewage treatment plant and said that will work for farmers too.

I am hoping my theory on you being on vacation is true and that you will now take a closer look at the nonsense your staff presented. They have to get real or this will be the end of dairy farming in this state. Certainly how you deal with this terrible situation will determine whether or not any farmer in this state ever says again that you are pretty good when it comes to farmers.

We are hoping for the best.



Harold VanBerkum

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