

To: Members of the DATCP Board

Date: July 10, 2019

Re: ATCP 51, Livestock Siting

My name is Jen Riemer, my family and I farm in south central WI. We raise cattle, hogs, poultry and lamb for direct sale to consumers and restaurants. About four years ago we learned of a 6,000 cow CAFO proposed just ½ mile from our home and adjacent to our farm fields. We had many concerns for our health, our children's safety, our water quality and our nearby creek. After seeking guidance from local and state agencies and elected officials and working with attorneys to get protective measures introduced to our town and county boards we ultimately learned that those who spend the most money lobbying win the game.

We found local officials feeling helpless to protect their constituents because they did not have any ability to make CAFO siting decisions based on the local knowledge of geology and hydrology. We found huge ag lobby groups like Farm Bureau and the Dairy Business Association throwing their weight around to keep regulations favorable for corporate farms, and ignoring the needs and concerns of my family farm. These groups may have large membership, but they do not represent the interests of family scale farms in the state of WI. Family scale farms need fair prices, clean water and some assurance that they can raise their families without the threat of being forced out of their homes due to constant unclean air quality.

The ATCP 51 Technical Review Committee has had many meetings over many months and has formulated recommendations to this committee. The process needs to continue and the recommendations should be brought forward for public comment. Please do not waste the resources of time, money and expertise already interested in this process. With the manure spills and poor drinking water in our state due to manure in groundwater this process must be continued! Wisconsin is becoming a joke when it comes to the quality of our waters and natural places when we permit large CAFO's in our most pristine areas. Wisconsin should be leading the way when it comes to fair government AND conservation.

As a third generation, medium size farmer in this state I want to ask the committee to continue this process. Please do not bend to the will of the corporate farm lobby. Listen to the voice of the majority, the family scale farmers that would like to be able to pass their land on to the next generation instead of being overshadowed and underpriced by factory farms.

Thank you for the consideration.

Jen Riemer, Brodhead, WI