



## Soil & Water Conservation Department

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Since 2007, Manitowoc County has issued 28 facility siting licenses including approx. 32,000 cows and approx. 17,000 youngstock.

I was a member of the 2004 -05 Technical Advisory Committee that developed the current requirements and standards in ATCP 51. I was also a member of the 2010, 2014, and 2018/19 Technical Advisory Committees that have recommended changes to make ATCP 51 better.

Back in the early 2000s, Manitowoc County had a lot of conflict with expanding dairy farms. Opposition groups formed, many angry people, lawyers, rooms full of emotional people, and boards not knowing how to make decisions without standards to follow.

In 2007, we created a County ordinance for ATCP 51 and much of this conflict ended. If the application meets the standards and requirements, the applicant gets a license to expand or construct a new livestock facility. If it does not meet the standards and other requirements, they don't get a license.

The success of ATCP 51 depends on the best standards possible. If the standards are good, the process works for most people.

Back in 2005, we all did the best job possible to put best standards and requirements in ATCP 51. Since then, science, knowledge, and experience have evolved. Legislatures back in 2003 realized this and therefore included the requirement that every four years a technical advisory team be assembled to review, discuss, and debate, then make recommendations for change. Updates and changes to improve ATCP 51 have not occurred since its development in 2005, so we are now way behind.

I strongly encourage you to move ATCP 51 to public hearing to get additional comments and recommendations to make ATCP 51 better. Why would hearing from others be a bad thing? Then separate fact from fiction, good from bad, and come up with standards that will be even better than we now have.

If we don't move forward, we will continue to go further behind causing a slow death to ATCP 51. Then we will be back to where we started in the early 2000s. Life is short and conflict and anger in a community is not good for anyone.

Thanks for your time!

Jerry Halverson