



July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2019

Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection Board  
2811 Agriculture Drive  
Madison, WI 53708

Dear Members of the DATCP Board,

Clean Wisconsin is a non-profit environmental advocacy group focused on clean water, clean air and clean energy issues. We were founded almost fifty years ago and have 20,000 members and supporters around the state, and we've been working on water pollution issues in Wisconsin since our founding in 1970

I'm writing to encourage you to advance to public hearing the proposed revisions to ATCP 51, the livestock siting rule. After a multi-year process and numerous iterations, it is time for all stakeholders and citizens of Wisconsin to have an opportunity to review and offer feedback on the proposed revisions.

Last time this rule came before the Board, you asked DATCP staff to reach out to stakeholders for more input. The department followed through on that request, and many agricultural, conservation, and environmental organizations, including Clean Wisconsin, were afforded the opportunity to discuss the rule revisions with staff. The technical committee the department put together to develop these revisions also reviewed and updated their recommendations. This new version should now go before the public.

We believe the modest changes these revisions make to ATCP 51 are within the Department's authority and help advance the dual goals of supporting agricultural operations and protecting water quality in Wisconsin. This rule update incorporates new technical standards that better reflect our knowledge about appropriate practices to protect water and would align ATCP 51 with the latest revisions incorporated in ATCP 50.

Water quality issues are of growing concern to citizens across Wisconsin. In the Year of Clean Drinking Water and in the midst of hearings across Wisconsin for the Speaker's Task Force on Water Quality, advancing this rule to public hearing presents an opportunity for the Board to play a constructive role in the robust conversation about how best to chart a course for our state towards cleaner water and a thriving agricultural community.

Sincerely,

Mark Redsten  
President & CEO  
Clean Wisconsin

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