

Giant dairy operations are not the best idea agriculture has ever had. It's not great for the cows, it's bad for family farms, and it's terrible for the environment. Oregon has had bad experiences with these operations and especially does not need one in the Columbia Gorge. The overwhelming amount of manure creates an assortment of pollutions: odor and methane and nitrogen oxides, among others. Odor is hardly compatible with tourism, methane is a powerful greenhouse gas, and nitrogen oxides are a component of smog. Oregon has failed to regulate emissions from these enterprises appropriately (or at all) and we should not be permitting any more of them until this is in place. Thank you for putting the brakes on until mitigation measures are in place, assuming these dairies have any role at all in Oregon agriculture.