

April 1, 2021

Chair Beyer and Members of the Senate Committee on Energy and Environment,

My name is Annalise Neff, I am a resident of Multnomah County and a concerned citizen. I am writing in **support of SB 583**, which would enact a moratorium on new or expanding mega-dairies over 2,500 cows.

I am quite frankly horrified at the state of the world and how we treat our natural resources. I love Oregon. I love that, as of right now, I live somewhere with access to nature, clean air and clean water, and I love that we can share this beautiful state with the plants and animals who live here.

The expansion of mega dairies puts at risk everything I love about this beautiful state and risks the longevity of the world as a whole as climate change grows and becomes an eminent threat to every living thing on this planet.

Mega dairies threaten to drain our water resources, as a dairy with 30,000 cows uses more water than the CITY OF BEND. We cannot sustain this kind of rampant waste further inland. Not only do these mega farms strip us of our water sources, but they are also a primary cause of water pollution in this country due to the production and poor disposal of excess manure. Legislators have so far, refused to protect their citizens from the consequences of this reckless pollution and we cannot allow corporations to not only strip us of our water, but poison it.

This is a public health issue, as many residents cannot afford expensive water filtration systems or bottled water, but we all need clean water to survive. Our laws and policy must reflect this.

Furthermore, the climate crisis is at a tipping point. Cattle are globally recognized as a leading cause of greenhouse gas, and methane emissions and other climate changing chemicals as well as being a primary contributor to air pollution caused by excess ammonia production.

Beyond this, Mega dairies destroy marginalized communities, abuse animals and have horrendous mental health outcomes for their employees, and we cannot allow them to do more damage than they already do.

We live in one of the most beautiful places on earth. Please don't put our beautiful state and the health of everyone who lives here at risk to support large-scale mega dairies who care for nothing and no one beyond their bottom lines.

I beg you to please vote yes on **SB 583** and enact a moratorium on new or expanding mega-dairies to ensure that this destructive method of dairy production doesn't spread further within our state and will give us an opportunity to address the existing harms from mega-dairies.

Sincerely,

Annalise Neff, Portland OR