

Submitter: Mark Puhlman
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and
Wildfire
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB80

Date: 3/29/2025

To: Senate Natural Resources Committee

From: Dr Mark Puhlman DNP

Re: Support for SB 80- to stop new or expanding large CAFOs in GWMA's

Dear Chair Golden, and Members of the Senate Natural Resources Committee:

My name is Mark Puhlman, and I live in Lake Oswego, OR.

I am writing to you today in support of SB 80. We must take action to halt the expansion of

factory farming, defined by the Oregon Department of Agriculture as large CAFOs, in our state's

groundwater management areas until contamination is brought down to safe levels.

I used to live in Chattahoochee, WA, on a well. This well was located between a large plume of nitrates from a factory chicken farm in Deer Park, WA, and a plume of VOCs dumped illegally by Keytronics in a landfill in Colbert, WA. It took millions of dollars to clean up the toxic mess. The large concentration of fecal matter that these factory farms produce contaminates the groundwater and our kids.

Nitrate contamination in the LUBGWMA continues to worsen despite being designated a GWMA 35 years ago. We need mandatory reductions in pollution and to prevent new sources of pollution, including factory farms, from being built in GWMA's in the first place. Well tests in GWMA's show nitrate levels more than 11 times the EPA limit for safe consumption. Drinking nitrate-laden water can cause severe health problems, particularly in women and infants, such as certain types of cancers, blue baby syndrome, thyroid issues, and other adverse health effects.

For the sake of our kids, and our own health, Pass SB 80.

Sincerely

Dr Mark Puhlman DNP

Lake Oswego Sustainability Network Board Member

Lake Oswego Sustainability Advisory Board Member
Citizen of this Earth