

## **Timeline for Yakima Regional Clean Air Agency Policymaking Re Dairies**

We present this timeline for YRCAA actions to help the reader better understand what has happened in Yakima County regarding dairy air quality over the past 50 years.

### **1967**

The Yakima Regional Clean Air Authority, later the Yakima Regional Clean Air Agency, is formed per RCW 70.94.081

### **1997**

YRCAA adopts a Beef Cattle Feedlot Air Policy

### **2002**

YRCAA approves Confined Heifer Operations Dust Control Policy

### **2010**

YRCAA discussion re AQMP for Dairies begins

Publication of *Emission Data from Two Dairy Freestall Barns in Washington*. Study performed in the LYV by WA State University for the National Air Emissions Monitoring Study.

### **2011**

John Hopkins study, *Airborne cow allergen, ammonia and particulate matter at homes vary with distance to industrial scale dairy operations: an exposure assessment*. The lead author presents the study to the YRCAA. There is no agency action.

February, YRCAA published public comments for the AQMP for dairies.

February, YRCAA Board of Directors approved the AQMP for dairies as a pilot research project.

### **2012**

Presentation of Draft AQMP for Dairies at YRCAA Board Meeting

### **2013**

May, Citizens present a petition to ban spreading and spraying of manure during burn bans and air inversions. The YRCAA Director recommends rejecting the petition and the YRCAA Board agrees.

June, the YRCAA Board of Directors approves an *Air Quality Management Policy and Best Management Practices for Dairy Operations (AQMP)*.

November, FOTC presents a critique of the Literature Review used to rebut a need for Ban on Spraying Manure during Inversions

## **2014**

YRCAA adopts a *PM Advance Program Path Forward*

January, YRCAA forms an Agricultural Task Force and a Dairy Work Group

The Yakima Air Winter Nitrate Study is completed

November, Board Study Session to review *Report to the YRCAA Board of Directors of the July, 2013 to October 2014 Policy Implementation Period* – two board members hear the report.

Publication of Ecology's *2011 County Emissions Inventory*.

Additional air monitor placed in Sunnyside.

## **2015**

YRCAA Board of Directors tables a proposed Five-Year Strategic Plan

University of Washington publishes studies on asthmatic children in the Yakima Valley.

FOTC asked the YRCAA to address Global Warming and Climate Change.

## **2016**

FOTC asks the WA Dept of Health and the Yakima Health District for an “expert opinion on when and under what conditions it is safe to apply manures, especially aerosolized manures, to cropland when human and animal exposures and health risks are taken into consideration.” To date there has been correspondence but there have been no substantive answers.

FOTC responds to an article in two local newspapers that quotes the YRCAA Director and states that ammonia emissions from animal agriculture are insignificant.

FOTC analyzes ammonia emissions in Yakima County and shares the study with YRCAA. The YRCAA takes no action.

FOTC files a Civil Rights Complaint to the EPA re YRCAA

FOTC asks Ecology to investigate the YRCAA under RCW 70A.15.3100

FOTC complains about conflict of interest for a YRCAA Board Member

## **2017**

Steve George from the Yakima Dairy Federation tells the YRCAA Board of Directors that he can speak for the dairy farmworkers.

YRCAA denies a second petition to ban manure spraying during burn bans and inversions.

**2018**

AQMP for Dairies rescinded

**2019**

FOTC repeats a request for Ecology to investigate YRCAA. The request is denied.

WA State helps a mushroom operation, with known odorous air emissions, to relocate from the west side of the state to the Sunnyside area.

The EPA Office of Civil Rights External Compliance comes to an agreement with the YRCAA regarding engagement of Spanish speaking residents.

**2020**

University of Washington publishes studies on asthmatic children in the Yakima Valley.