

Joe Cotta

I oppose The Washington State Department of Ecology proposing new rules for Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFO). The threshold for being considered a CAFO is far too low, as only having one cow, horse, or goat (or chickens and ducks) puts undue burdens on people with a simple 4H project. I oppose the DOE expressing NO minimum number of animals in the proposed rules. A family with one cow may be charged \$308.00 for a yearly permit to manage the animal in a manner the DOE finds acceptable. This rule applies to composting and storing manure and when one can apply manure tea to their garden. There is no rule change needed that would incur this kind of hardship on families, particularly during this economy when many will utilize their back yards to establish a small food supply to lessen the burden of taxes and poor governmental management.