

# Magali Cota

Like many other concerned citizens I am aware of the negative effects CAFOs have on our communities. From developmental issues in infants to the toxins absorbed by wildlife, CAFOs should be a concern to all of us, but more specifically to the agency (Ecology) charged with the duty to protect our environment in Washington state.

During the CAFOs permitting process the Department of Ecology has the opportunity to regulate CAFOs as defined by the Clean Water Act and to abide by the Washington State Court of Appeals' order to rewrite the Washington CAFO water pollution permit to protect Washington's waters from contamination and to take climate crisis into account. Ecology has the opportunity to enact important provisions, which would require the use of modern pollution control technologies and practices to eliminate discharges to waterways and protect our communities. I am supporting these updates because as currently written, not only do these permits fail to protect our communities and environment, but they also violate federal and state law.

We have a brief window to make positive changes to the CAFOs permits before Washington is significantly affected by the pollution created by ineffective CAFOs regulations and climate change. As a Gonzaga law student and resident of Spokane, I encourage the Department of Ecology to rewrite and champion these important updates to the CAFOs permits to improve the livability of our community for all residents.

I appreciate this opportunity to comment on both the draft CAFO general permit AND the associated SEPA DNS. Please do your jobs better.

Sincerely,  
Magali Cota  
Spokane resident