

STEVE VANDER HAAK

First of all I don't understand the limiting of credits for people doing things well and helping the environment. We built the first digester in the state and still operating it over 20 years later collecting the gas and either creating electricity or burning the excess gas. This is not without updating the digester to meet current requirements\standards and keeping it operationally sufficient. Digesters have been proven to help air emissions and rules limiting them would hurt both current and future digesters. There should be no limit on the length of time for selling the credits. Currently these credits have not had any great value. In fact the price is terrible. If you adopt this rule Washington will be losing out on credits made in the state since operators will be looking to other states to sell them. We also recycle many gallons of food waste through the digester that Ecology is pushing keep from landfills or municipal waste facilities. This would limit the expansion of any digester to help fill the need of food waste recycling. Many of the materials taken by digesters can not be recycled any other way.

This Rule along with lower power rates over the past few years will eliminate any new dairy digesters and have the possibility of current operations shut down. As an operator I am willing to discuss this more if you would like.

Please oppose any limits to digesters and farmers getting credits for the positive things they do.