

Pamela Gross

I am Pamela Gross. I'm here today to testify, also joining in the company of others, to strongly oppose continued incentives for factory farm gas in the clean fuel standard. My home is in San Juan County, and I was shocked to learn that in neighboring Skagit and Whatcom counties factory farms confined thousands of milk cows in super close quarters. I started educating myself, and the more I learned, the more offended I became.

Corporations involved in factory farm gas schemes are not interested in protecting preserving or enhancing Washington's environment. They do not share DOE's vision to protect and sustain healthy land, air, and water. Big Ag and Big Oil and Gas, with their factory farms and gas production schemes, violate our values and violate our common sense. They are not good neighbors. Good neighbors don't pollute our air or water.

Factory farms are an ecological, environmental, and public health disaster whose business model is not anywhere near aligned with the goals for clean fuel standards. Further incentivizing them as a source of energy is a false and impossibly cruel solution. Ecology claims its proposal incentivizes new and additional methane capture, but in reality, by including factory farms in the CFS this proposal is encouraging new and additional methane creation. Washington should not greenwash factory farm pollution as climate action.

My family and I urge ecology to eliminate avoided methane credits. Washington has a chance to lead where California fell short. Please reform this policy. Protect communities, not polluters. Thank you for your time and consideration.