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Submitted Via NMED Public Comment Portal

June 18, 2026

William Brancard, Chair
Water Quality Control Commission
Harold L. Runnels Building
1190 S. St. Francis Drive
Sante Fe, NM 87505

RE: WQCC 25-74 (R): In the Matter of Proposed Amendments to 20.6.2 NMAC and 20.6.5 NMAC – Surface Water Quality State Permitting Program

Dear Commissioner Brancard:

Enclosed please find the comments of 185 Food & Water Watch members who support protecting New Mexico's water through CAFO-specific rules in the program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alexa Reynaud". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Alexa" and last name "Reynaud" clearly distinguishable.

Alexa Reynaud
Rural Organizing Manager
Food & Water Watch
areynaud@fwwatch.org

To: New Mexico Water Quality Control Commissioner William Brancard,

I urge you to protect the quality of New Mexico's water by imposing strong pollution control requirements on all discharging CAFOs. To that end, NMED must craft CAFO-specific rules that (1) eliminate loopholes present in federal regulation so that discharging CAFOs can no longer evade permitting requirements, and (2) impose more stringent pollution control and monitoring requirements on CAFOs that far exceed the ineffective federal baseline standards. Over the last several decades, food animal production has changed dramatically, with most livestock now raised in industrial-scale Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) that confine thousands of animals in small spaces. According to the most recent agricultural census data, New Mexico had 280,066 dairy cows living on mega-dairies, producing 11.5 billion pounds of manure annually, - four times as much as the state's human population. This industrialization of livestock production - and the waste that comes along with it - has led to widespread water pollution. CAFO manure and wastewater is laden with numerous harmful pollutants, like nutrients, pathogens, pharmaceuticals, and heavy metals, which contaminate ground and surface water when they run off from land application fields and production areas, overflow or seep from waste storage structures, and/or redepose on land and water after volatilization. When CAFO waste pollutes our freshwater resources, it threatens the public with serious health harms associated with nitrates and pathogens, causes toxic algal blooms that starve aquatic life of oxygen, and decimates water quality. Though EPA estimates that 75 percent of CAFOs discharge, only 12 percent of New Mexico's CAFOs currently hold the required permit. Gaping loopholes in EPA's CAFO regulations have fueled this under-permitting crisis. Further, even when CAFOs are permitted, federal standards fail to effectively control their pollution. EPA's CAFO regulations ignore numerous pollutants of concern, like heavy metals and hormones, and allow CAFOs to dump waste onto cropfields in ways and at quantities that are known to harm water quality. As NMED works to build out its surface water permitting program, it has a unique opportunity to correct the fundamental flaws in federal regulation and create strong rules that ensure all discharging CAFOs obtain permits that are actually protective of surface waters. New Mexico can and should do more to protect state waters from this major pollution source. I urge you to protect New Mexico's water by issuing CAFO-specific rules that ensure all discharging CAFOs are covered by permits, and impose strong pollution control requirements on these polluting operations.

Sincerely, Mikayla Rigdon

10408 Stovall Ct
NE Albuquerque, NM

To: New Mexico Water Quality Control Commissioner William Brancard,

I am a retired hydrogeologist who spent my career working on Everglades restoration and Water Supply Planning. As such, I learned that it is far better (and less expensive) to prevent the contamination of water by farming, ranching, dairy and mining than to try and clean up the water later. New Mexicans need you to protect the quality of New Mexico's water by imposing strong pollution control requirements on all discharging CAFOs. To that end, NMED must craft CAFO-specific rules that (1) eliminate loopholes present in federal regulation so that discharging CAFOs can no longer evade permitting requirements, and (2) impose more stringent pollution control and monitoring requirements on CAFOs that far exceed the ineffective federal baseline standards. If you fail to take these steps, New Mexicans will be required to pay for the clean up in future years. Over the last several decades, food animal production has changed dramatically, with most livestock now raised in industrial-scale Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) that confine thousands of animals in small spaces. According to the most recent agricultural census data, New Mexico had 280,066 dairy cows living on mega-dairies, producing 11.5 billion pounds of manure annually - four times as much as the state's human population. This industrialization of livestock production - and the waste that comes along with it - has led to widespread water pollution. CAFO manure and wastewater is laden with numerous harmful pollutants, like nutrients, pathogens, pharmaceuticals, and heavy metals, which contaminate ground and surface water when they run off from land application fields and production areas, overflow or seep from waste storage structures, and/or redeposit on land and water after volatilization. When CAFO waste pollutes our freshwater resources, it threatens the public with serious health harms associated with nitrates and pathogens, causes toxic algal blooms that starve aquatic life of oxygen, and decimates water quality. Though EPA estimates that 75 percent of CAFOs discharge, only 12 percent of New Mexico's CAFOs currently hold the required permit. Gaping loopholes in EPA's CAFO regulations have fueled this under-permitting crisis. Further, even when CAFOs are permitted, federal standards fail to effectively control their pollution. EPA's CAFO regulations ignore numerous pollutants of concern, like heavy metals and hormones, and allow CAFOs to dump waste onto cropfields in ways and at quantities that are known to harm water quality. As NMED works to build out its surface water permitting program, it has a unique opportunity to correct the fundamental flaws in federal regulation and create strong rules that ensure all discharging CAFOs obtain permits that are actually protective of surface waters. New Mexico can and should do more to protect state waters from this major pollution source. Do the right thing-establish strong rules to protect our waters! I urge you to protect New Mexico's water by issuing CAFO-specific rules that ensure all discharging CAFOs are covered by permits, and impose strong pollution control requirements on these polluting operations.

Sincerely, Cynthia Gefvert

2205 Cebolla Creek Way

NW Albuquerque, NM

To: New Mexico Water Quality Control Commissioner William Brancard,

Do you want cow poop in your water? Well, neither do I. I urge you to protect the quality of New Mexico's water by imposing strong pollution control requirements on all discharging CAFOs. To that end, NMED must craft CAFO-specific rules that (1) eliminate loopholes present in federal regulation so that discharging CAFOs can no longer evade permitting requirements, and (2) impose more stringent pollution control and monitoring requirements on CAFOs that far exceed the ineffective federal baseline standards. Over the last several decades, food animal production has changed dramatically, with most livestock now raised in industrial-scale Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) that confine thousands of animals in small spaces. According to the most recent agricultural census data, New Mexico had 280,066 dairy cows living on mega-dairies, producing 11.5 billion pounds of manure annually - four times as much as the state's human population. This industrialization of livestock production - and the waste that comes along with it - has led to widespread water pollution. CAFO manure and wastewater is laden with numerous harmful pollutants, like nutrients, pathogens, pharmaceuticals, and heavy metals, which contaminate ground and surface water when they run off from land application fields and production areas, overflow or seep from waste storage structures, and/or redepose on land and water after volatilization. When CAFO waste pollutes our freshwater resources, it threatens the public with serious health harms associated with nitrates and pathogens, causes toxic algal blooms that starve aquatic life of oxygen, and decimates water quality. Though EPA estimates that 75 percent of CAFOs discharge, only 12 percent of New Mexico's CAFOs currently hold the required permit. Gaping loopholes in EPA's CAFO regulations have fueled this under-permitting crisis. Further, even when CAFOs are permitted, federal standards fail to effectively control their pollution. EPA's CAFO regulations ignore numerous pollutants of concern, like heavy metals and hormones, and allow CAFOs to dump waste onto cropfields in ways and at quantities that are known to harm water quality. As NMED works to build out its surface water permitting program, it has a unique opportunity to correct the fundamental flaws in federal regulation and create strong rules that ensure all discharging CAFOs obtain permits that are actually protective of surface waters. New Mexico can and should do more to protect state waters from this major pollution source. I urge you to protect New Mexico's water by issuing CAFO-specific rules that ensure all discharging CAFOs are covered by permits, and impose strong pollution control requirements on these polluting operations.

Sincerely, Linda Buchser
369 Montezuma Ave, # 575
Santa Fe, NM

To: New Mexico Water Quality Control Commissioner William Brancard,

As a retired environmental engineer, I strongly urge you to protect the quality of New Mexico's water by imposing strong pollution control requirements on all discharging CAFOs. To that end, NMED must craft CAFO-specific rules that (1) eliminate loopholes present in federal regulation so that discharging CAFOs can no longer evade permitting requirements, and (2) impose more stringent pollution control and monitoring requirements on CAFOs that far exceed the ineffective federal baseline standards. As you know, over the last several decades, food animal production has changed dramatically, with most livestock now raised in industrial-scale Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) that confine thousands of animals in small spaces. According to the most recent agricultural census data, New Mexico had 280,066 dairy cows living on mega-dairies, producing 11.5 billion pounds of manure annually - four times as much as the state's human population. This industrialization of livestock production - and the waste that comes along with it - has led to widespread water pollution. Specifically, CAFO manure and wastewater is laden with numerous harmful pollutants, like nutrients, pathogens, pharmaceuticals, and heavy metals, which contaminate ground and surface water when they run off from land application fields and production areas, overflow or seep from waste storage structures, and/or redepose on land and water after volatilization. When CAFO waste pollutes our freshwater resources, it threatens the public with serious

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Sincerely, Dawn Foster
21 Las Brisas Loop
Placitas, NM

To: New Mexico Water Quality Control Commissioner William Brancard,

The Southwest in dire straits with lack of water. We don't even know if there will be water for people this year without some luck and some extraordinary mediating regarding the Rio Grande. Poop from factory farms is already polluting our water in some areas. We cannot afford to use what water we have to factory farms. Plain and simple. I urge you to protect the quality of New Mexico's water, by imposing strong pollution control requirements on all discharging CAFOs. To that end, NMED must craft CAFO-specific rules that (1) eliminate loopholes present in federal regulation so that discharging CAFOs can no longer evade permitting requirements, and (2) impose more stringent pollution control and monitoring requirements on CAFOs that far exceed the ineffective federal baseline standards. Over the last several decades, food animal production has changed dramatically, with most livestock now raised in industrial-scale Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) that confine thousands of animals in small spaces. According to the most recent agricultural census data, New Mexico had 280,066 dairy cows living on mega-dairies, producing 11.5 billion pounds of manure annually - four times as much as the state's human population. This industrialization of livestock production - and the waste that comes along with it - has led to widespread water pollution. CAFO manure and wastewater is laden with numerous harmful pollutants, like nutrients, pathogens, pharmaceuticals, and heavy metals, which contaminate ground and surface water when they run off from land application fields and production areas, overflow or seep from waste storage structures, and/or redeposit on land and water after volatilization. When CAFO waste pollutes our freshwater resources, it threatens the public with serious health harms associated with nitrates and pathogens, causes toxic algal blooms that starve aquatic life of oxygen, and decimates water quality. Though EPA estimates that 75 percent of CAFOs discharge, only 12 percent of New Mexico's CAFOs currently hold the required permit. Gaping loopholes in EPA's CAFO regulations have fueled this under-permitting crisis. Further, even when CAFOs are permitted, federal standards fail to effectively control their pollution. EPA's CAFO regulations ignore numerous pollutants of concern, like heavy metals and hormones, and allow CAFOs to dump waste onto cropfields in ways and at quantities that are known to harm water quality. As NMED works to build out its surface water permitting program, it has a unique opportunity to correct the fundamental flaws in federal regulation and create strong rules that ensure all discharging CAFOs obtain permits that are actually protective of surface waters. New Mexico can and should do more to protect state waters from this major pollution source. I urge you to protect New Mexico's water by issuing CAFO-specific rules that ensure all discharging CAFOs are covered by permits, and impose strong pollution control requirements on these polluting operations.

Sincerely, Rebecca Walding

PO Box 146
Cerrillos, NM

To: New Mexico Water Quality Control Commissioner William Brancard,
New Mexico's water supply is at risk. We must protect it at every turn in the strongest ways possible. I urge you to protect the quality of New Mexico's water by imposing strong pollution control requirements on all discharging CAFOs. To that end, NMED must craft CAFO-specific rules that (1) eliminate loopholes present in federal regulation so that discharging CAFOs can no longer evade permitting requirements, and (2) impose more stringent pollution control and monitoring requirements on CAFOs that far exceed the ineffective federal baseline standards. Over the last several decades, food animal production has changed dramatically, with most livestock now raised in industrial-scale Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) that confine thousands of animals in small spaces. According to the most recent agricultural census data, New Mexico had 280,066 dairy cows living on mega-dairies, producing 11.5 billion pounds of manure annually - four times as much as the state's human population. This industrialization of livestock production - and the waste that comes along with it - has led to widespread water pollution. CAFO manure and wastewater is laden with numerous harmful pollutants, like nutrients, pathogens, pharmaceuticals, and heavy metals, which contaminate ground and surface water when they run off from land application fields and production areas, overflow or seep from waste storage structures, and/or redepose on land and water after volatilization. When CAFO waste pollutes our freshwater resources, it threatens the public with serious health harms associated with nitrates and pathogens, causes toxic algal blooms that starve aquatic life of oxygen, and decimates water quality. Though EPA estimates that 75 percent of CAFOs discharge, only 12 percent of New Mexico's CAFOs currently hold the required permit. Gaping loopholes in EPA's CAFO regulations have fueled this under-permitting crisis. Further, even when CAFOs are permitted, federal standards fail to effectively control their pollution. EPA's CAFO regulations ignore numerous pollutants of concern, like heavy metals and hormones, and allow CAFOs to dump waste onto cropfields in ways and at quantities that are known to harm water quality. As NMED works to build out its surface water permitting program, it has a unique opportunity to correct the fundamental flaws in federal regulation and create strong rules that ensure all discharging CAFOs obtain permits that are actually protective of surface waters. New Mexico can and should do more to protect state waters from this major pollution source. I urge you to protect New Mexico's water by issuing CAFO-specific rules that ensure all discharging CAFOs are covered by permits, and impose strong pollution control requirements on these polluting operations.

Sincerely, Daisy Kates
37 Dos Hermanitas
Placitas, NM

To: New Mexico Water Quality Control Commissioner William Brancard,

We don't have much water to start with, so it's imperative that we protect the quality of the water that we do have. I urge you to protect the quality of New Mexico's water by imposing strong pollution control requirements on all discharging CAFOs. To that end, NMED must craft CAFO-specific rules that (1) eliminate loopholes present in federal regulation so that discharging CAFOs can no longer evade permitting requirements, and (2) impose more stringent pollution control and monitoring requirements on CAFOs that far exceed the ineffective federal baseline standards. Over the last several decades, food animal production has changed dramatically, with most livestock now raised in industrial-scale Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) that confine thousands of animals in small spaces. According to the most recent agricultural census data, New Mexico had 280,066 dairy cows living on mega-dairies, producing 11.5 billion pounds of manure annually - four times as much as the state's human population. This industrialization of livestock production - and the waste that comes along with it - has led to widespread water pollution. CAFO manure and wastewater is laden with numerous harmful pollutants, like nutrients, pathogens, pharmaceuticals, and heavy metals, which contaminate ground and surface water when they run off from land application fields and production areas, overflow or seep from waste storage structures, and/or redeposit on land and water after volatilization. When CAFO waste pollutes our freshwater resources, it threatens the public with serious health harms associated with nitrates and pathogens, causes toxic algal blooms that starve aquatic life of oxygen, and decimates water quality. Though EPA estimates that 75 percent of CAFOs discharge, only 12 percent of New Mexico's CAFOs currently hold the required permit. Gaping loopholes in EPA's CAFO regulations have fueled this under-permitting crisis. Further, even when CAFOs are permitted, federal standards fail to effectively control their pollution. EPA's CAFO regulations ignore numerous pollutants of concern, like heavy metals and hormones, and allow CAFOs to dump waste onto cropfields in ways and at quantities that are known to harm water quality. As NMED works to build out its surface water permitting program, it has a unique opportunity to correct the fundamental flaws in federal regulation and create strong rules that ensure all discharging CAFOs obtain permits that are actually protective of surface waters. New Mexico can and should do more to protect state waters from this major pollution source. I urge you to protect New Mexico's water by issuing CAFO-specific rules that ensure all discharging CAFOs are covered by permits, and impose strong pollution control requirements on these polluting operations.

Sincerely, Val Talento

842 Fitzgerald Rd NW

Albuquerque, NM

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Sincerely, Cindy Gacha
7112 Patricia Dr
NE Albuquerque, NM

To: New Mexico Water Quality Control Commissioner William Brancard,

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Sincerely, Lois Bair
3126 Allyson Way
NE Rio Rancho, NM

To: New Mexico Water Quality Control Commissioner William Brancard,
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Sincerely, Kathryn Young
2117 Father Sky St
NE Albuquerque, NM

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Sincerely, Carol Sassaman
PO Box 305
Hanover, NM

To: New Mexico Water Quality Control Commissioner William Brancard,

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Sincerely, Claudette Selph
1835 Truchas Peak Trail
NE Rio Rancho, NM

To: New Mexico Water Quality Control Commissioner William Brancard,
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Sincerely, Zella Bray
920 Riverview Dr
SE Apt 302 Rio Rancho, NM

To: New Mexico Water Quality Control Commissioner William Brancard,

I urge you to protect the quality of New Mexico's water by imposing strong pollution control requirements on all discharging CAFOs. To that end, NMED must craft CAFO-specific rules that (1) eliminate loopholes present in federal regulation so that discharging CAFOs can no longer evade permitting requirements, and (2) impose more stringent pollution control and monitoring requirements on CAFOs that far exceed the ineffective federal baseline standards. Over the last several decades, food animal production has changed dramatically, with most livestock now raised in industrial-scale Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) that confine thousands of animals in small spaces. According to the most recent agricultural census data, New Mexico had 280,066 dairy cows living on mega-dairies, producing 11.5 billion pounds of manure annually - four times as much as the state's human population. This industrialization of livestock production - and the waste that comes along with it - has led to widespread water pollution. CAFO manure and wastewater is laden with numerous harmful pollutants, like nutrients, pathogens, pharmaceuticals, and heavy metals, which contaminate ground and surface water when they run off from land application fields and production areas, overflow or seep from waste storage structures, and/or redepose on land and water after volatilization. When CAFO waste pollutes our freshwater resources, it threatens the public with serious health harms associated with nitrates and pathogens, causes toxic algal blooms that starve aquatic life of oxygen, and decimates water quality. Though EPA estimates that 75 percent of CAFOs discharge, only 12 percent of New Mexico's CAFOs currently hold the required permit. Gaping loopholes in EPA's CAFO regulations have fueled this under-permitting crisis. Further, even when CAFOs are permitted, federal standards fail to effectively control their pollution. EPA's CAFO regulations ignore numerous pollutants of concern, like heavy metals and hormones, and allow CAFOs to dump waste onto cropfields in ways and at quantities that are known to harm water quality. As NMED works to build out its surface water permitting program, it has a unique opportunity to correct the fundamental flaws in federal regulation and create strong rules that ensure all discharging CAFOs obtain permits that are actually protective of surface waters. New Mexico can and should do more to protect state waters from this major pollution source. I urge you to protect New Mexico's water by issuing CAFO-specific rules that ensure all discharging CAFOs are covered by permits, and impose strong pollution control requirements on these polluting operations.

Sincerely, Susan J Morris
PO Box 268
Vanderwagen, NM

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Sincerely, Vernon Batty
PO Box 1299
Mesilla Park, NM

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Sincerely, Janie Chodosh
832 Bishops Lodge Rd
Santa Fe, NM

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Sincerely, Chemen Ochoa

1 Altura Dr

Santa Fe, NM

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Sincerely, Rebecca Procter
21 Aster Way,
Santa Fe, NM

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Sincerely, Ronald Groves
101 W Daniel St
Silver City, NM

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Sincerely, Sarah
Unknown, NM

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Sincerely, Ellen Pinsky
5300 Antequera Rd NW
Apt 1804 Albuquerque, NM

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Sincerely, Martina Filerio
30 Los Olivos Rd
Berino, NM

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Sincerely, Joann V. Bethel
4305 Dancing Ground Rd
Santa Fe, NM

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Sincerely, Maria Cordova
9113 James Pl
NE Albuquerque, NM

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Sincerely, Irene Johnson
619 S Cedar Ave
Roswell, NM

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Sincerely, Harriette Bugel
117 NM Hwy 346
Bosque, NM

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Sincerely, Betsy Wolf

PO Box 524

Taos, NM

To: New Mexico Water Quality Control Commissioner William Brancard,

I urge you to protect the quality of New Mexico's water by imposing strong pollution control requirements on all discharging CAFOs. To that end, NMED must craft CAFO-specific rules that (1) eliminate loopholes present in federal regulation so that discharging CAFOs can no longer evade permitting requirements, and (2) impose more stringent pollution control and monitoring requirements on CAFOs that far exceed the ineffective federal baseline standards. Over the last several decades, food animal production has changed dramatically, with most livestock now raised in industrial-scale Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) that confine thousands of animals in small spaces. According to the most recent agricultural census data, New Mexico had 280,066 dairy cows living on mega-dairies, producing 11.5 billion pounds of manure annually - four times as much as the state's human population. This industrialization of livestock production - and the waste that comes along with it - has led to widespread water pollution. CAFO manure and wastewater is laden with numerous harmful pollutants, like nutrients, pathogens, pharmaceuticals, and heavy metals, which contaminate ground and surface water when they run off from land application fields and production areas, overflow or seep from waste storage structures, and/or redeposit on land and water after volatilization. When CAFO waste pollutes our freshwater resources, it threatens the public with serious health harms associated with nitrates and pathogens, causes toxic algal blooms that starve aquatic life of oxygen, and decimates water quality. Though EPA estimates that 75 percent of CAFOs discharge, only 12 percent of New Mexico's CAFOs currently hold the required permit. Gaping loopholes in EPA's CAFO regulations have fueled this under-permitting crisis. Further, even when CAFOs are permitted, federal standards fail to effectively control their pollution. EPA's CAFO regulations ignore numerous pollutants of concern, like heavy metals and hormones, and allow CAFOs to dump waste onto cropfields in ways and at quantities that are known to harm water quality. As NMED works to build out its surface water permitting program, it has a unique opportunity to correct the fundamental flaws in federal regulation and create strong rules that ensure all discharging CAFOs obtain permits that are actually protective of surface waters. New Mexico can and should do more to protect state waters from this major pollution source. I urge you to protect New Mexico's water by issuing CAFO-specific rules that ensure all discharging CAFOs are covered by permits, and impose strong pollution control requirements on these polluting operations.

Sincerely, Pamela Tauer

132 Old Lincoln Rd

Ruidoso, NM

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Sincerely, Cherie Gaston
7600 Montgomery Blvd NE Apt 1047
Albuquerque, NM

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Sincerely, Glenda Callahan
6075 Namath Ave NW
Albuquerque, NM

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Sincerely, Esther Jantzen
4500 Aztec Rd NE Apt 1
Albuquerque, NM

To: New Mexico Water Quality Control Commissioner William Brancard,

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Sincerely, Jenny Wantuck
1928 Yarbrough PI NW
Albuquerque, NM

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Sincerely, Katherine Sogokow
7108 Boxwood Ave NE
Albuquerque, NM

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Sincerely, Lawrence Page Jr
7010 Phoenix Ave NE Apt 612
Albuquerque, NM

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Sincerely, Blaine Wimberly
14 Penny Ln
Cedar Crest, NM

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Sincerely, Michele Fair
36 Laborcita Canyon Rd
La Luz, NM

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Sincerely, William Urwyler
4712 La Pacana Ct SE
Rio Rancho, NM

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Sincerely, Nancy King
1224 Vallecita Dr
Santa Fe, NM

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Sincerely, Cynthia Hull
3415 Ciniza Dr
Gallup, NM

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Sincerely, Linda Schmidt
3205 La Mancha Dr NW
Albuquerque, NM

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Sincerely, Mary Drabbs
6900 Hensch Ave NE
Albuquerque, NM

To: New Mexico Water Quality Control Commissioner William Brancard,

I urge you to protect the quality of New Mexico's water by imposing strong pollution control requirements on all discharging CAFOs. To that end, NMED must craft CAFO-specific rules that (1) eliminate loopholes present in federal regulation so that discharging CAFOs can no longer evade permitting requirements, and (2) impose more stringent pollution control and monitoring requirements on CAFOs that far exceed the ineffective federal baseline standards. Over the last several decades, food animal production has changed dramatically, with most livestock now raised in industrial-scale Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) that confine thousands of animals in small spaces. According to the most recent agricultural census data, New Mexico had 280,066 dairy cows living on mega-dairies, producing 11.5 billion pounds of manure annually - four times as much as the state's human population. This industrialization of livestock production - and the waste that comes along with it - has led to widespread water pollution. CAFO manure and wastewater is laden with numerous harmful pollutants, like nutrients, pathogens, pharmaceuticals, and heavy metals, which contaminate ground and surface water when they run off from land application fields and production areas, overflow or seep from waste storage structures, and/or redepose on land and water after volatilization. When CAFO waste pollutes our freshwater resources, it threatens the public with serious health harms associated with nitrates and pathogens, causes toxic algal blooms that starve

aquatic life of oxygen, and decimates water quality. Though EPA estimates that 75 percent of CAFOs discharge, only 12 percent of New Mexico's CAFOs currently hold the required permit. Gaping loopholes in EPA's CAFO regulations have fueled this under-permitting crisis. Further, even when CAFOs are permitted, federal standards fail to effectively control their pollution. EPA's CAFO regulations ignore numerous pollutants of concern, like heavy metals and hormones, and allow CAFOs to dump waste onto cropfields in ways and at quantities that are known to harm water quality. As NMED works to build out its surface water permitting program, it has a unique opportunity to correct the fundamental flaws in federal regulation and create strong rules that ensure all discharging CAFOs obtain permits that are actually protective of surface waters. New Mexico can and should do more to protect state waters from this major pollution source. I urge you to protect New Mexico's water by issuing CAFO-specific rules that ensure all discharging CAFOs are covered by permits, and impose strong pollution control requirements on these polluting operations.

Sincerely, Jan Voorhees
PO Box 55
Gila, NM

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Sincerely, Douglas Long
790 Thunder Rd SE
Rio Rancho, NM

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Sincerely, Seth Rabke
128 Cruz de Jara
Lincoln, NM

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Sincerely, Sandra Anderson

12 Del Sol Trl

Santa Fe, NM

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Sincerely, Luwana Wanaie

8 Allen Rd

Mimbres, NM

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Sincerely, Sonora Hewitt
2155 Avalon Dr
Las Cruces, NM

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Sincerely, JC Corcoran
10 Floresta Dr
Santa Fe, NM

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Sincerely, Diane Lafrance
1216 N Florida St
Silver City, NM

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Sincerely, L. Bagley
1601 Pennsylvania St NE Unit U29
Albuquerque, NM

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Sincerely, Ruth Burstrom
1538 Eagle Ridge Pl NE
Albuquerque, NM

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Sincerely, Geronimo Mato Juan de Garay
Santa Fe, NM

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Sincerely, Jack Kerns
P.O BOX 1952
Moriarty, NM

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Sincerely, Chris Burns
PO Box 652
Abiquiu, NM

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Sincerely, Pat Jones
3101 S Socorro St
Deming, NM

To: New Mexico Water Quality Control Commissioner William Brancard,

I urge you to protect the quality of New Mexico's water by imposing strong pollution control requirements on all discharging CAFOs. To that end, NMED must craft CAFO-specific rules that (1) eliminate loopholes present in federal regulation so that discharging CAFOs can no longer evade permitting requirements, and (2) impose more stringent pollution control and monitoring requirements on CAFOs that far exceed the ineffective federal baseline standards. Over the last several decades, food animal production has changed dramatically, with most livestock now raised in industrial-scale Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) that confine thousands of animals in small spaces. According to the most recent agricultural census data, New Mexico had 280,066 dairy cows living on mega-dairies, producing 11.5 billion pounds of manure annually - four times as much as the state's human population. This industrialization of livestock production - and the waste that comes along with it - has led to widespread water pollution. CAFO manure and wastewater is laden with numerous harmful pollutants, like nutrients, pathogens, pharmaceuticals, and heavy metals, which contaminate ground and surface water when they run off from land application fields and production areas, overflow or seep from waste storage structures, and/or redepose on land and water after volatilization. When CAFO waste pollutes our freshwater resources, it threatens the public with serious health harms associated with nitrates and pathogens, causes toxic algal blooms that starve aquatic life of oxygen, and decimates water quality. Though EPA estimates that 75 percent of CAFOs discharge, only 12 percent of New Mexico's CAFOs currently hold the required permit. Gaping loopholes in EPA's CAFO regulations have fueled this under-permitting crisis. Further, even when CAFOs are permitted, federal standards fail to effectively control their pollution. EPA's CAFO regulations ignore numerous pollutants of concern, like heavy metals and hormones, and allow CAFOs to dump waste onto cropfields in ways and at quantities that are known to harm water quality. As NMED works to build out its surface water permitting program, it has a unique opportunity to correct the fundamental flaws in federal regulation and create strong rules that ensure all discharging CAFOs obtain permits that are actually protective of surface waters. New Mexico can and should do more to protect state waters from this major pollution source. I urge you to protect New Mexico's water by issuing CAFO-specific rules that ensure all discharging CAFOs are covered by permits, and impose strong pollution control requirements on these polluting operations.

Sincerely, Patricia Foschi
538 Garcia St
Santa Fe, NM

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Sincerely, Jessica Jakubanis
13904 Encantado Rd NE
Albuquerque, NM

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Sincerely, Miriam Plett
3501 Dakota St NE
Albuquerque, NM

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Sincerely, Andrew Ervin
305 Frost Road
Sandia Park, NM

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Sincerely, DeWitt Henderson
3476 Northpointe Dr
Las Cruces, NM

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Sincerely, Roger Southward
165 Camino Barranca
Placitas, NM

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Sincerely, Gillian McCarty Ellis
609 47th St NW
Albuquerque, NM

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Sincerely, Donja McAllister

117 S Plaza

Taos, NM

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Sincerely, Cheryl Foote

1824 Rita NE

Albuquerque, NM

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Sincerely, Angel McCarter
5213 Candelaria Rd NE
Albuquerque, NM

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Sincerely, Joe Kennedy
1402 E Valle Dr
Silver City, NM

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Sincerely, Emily Holcomb
3723 Espejo St NE
Albuquerque, NM

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Sincerely, Hugh Friedman
1338 Half Moon Rd
El Prado, NM

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Sincerely, Evangelina Martinez
130 El Chavo Ln
Anthony, NM

To: New Mexico Water Quality Control Commissioner William Brancard,
I urge you to protect the quality of New Mexico's water by imposing strong pollution control requirements on all discharging CAFOs. To that end, NMED must craft CAFO-specific rules that (1) eliminate loopholes present in federal regulation so that discharging CAFOs can no longer evade permitting requirements, and (2) impose more stringent pollution control and monitoring requirements on CAFOs that far exceed the ineffective federal baseline standards. Over the last several decades, food animal production has changed dramatically, with most livestock now raised in industrial-scale Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) that confine thousands of animals in small spaces. According to the most recent agricultural census data, New Mexico had 280,066 dairy cows living on mega-dairies, producing 11.5 billion pounds of manure annually - four times as much as the state's human population. This industrialization of livestock production - and the waste that comes along with it - has led to widespread water pollution. CAFO manure and wastewater is laden with numerous harmful pollutants, like nutrients, pathogens, pharmaceuticals, and heavy metals, which contaminate ground and surface water when they run off from land application fields and production areas, overflow or seep from waste storage structures, and/or redeposit on land and water after volatilization. When CAFO waste pollutes our freshwater resources, it threatens the public with serious health harms associated with nitrates and pathogens, causes toxic algal blooms that starve aquatic life of oxygen, and decimates water quality. Though EPA estimates that 75 percent of CAFOs discharge, only 12 percent of New Mexico's CAFOs currently hold the required permit. Gaping loopholes in EPA's CAFO regulations have fueled this under-permitting crisis. Further, even when CAFOs are permitted, federal standards fail to effectively control their pollution. EPA's CAFO regulations ignore numerous pollutants of concern, like heavy metals and hormones, and allow CAFOs to dump waste onto cropfields in ways and at quantities that are known to harm water quality. As NMED works to build out its surface water permitting program, it has a unique opportunity to correct the fundamental flaws in federal regulation and create strong rules that ensure all discharging CAFOs obtain permits that are actually protective of surface waters. New Mexico can and should do more to protect state waters from this major pollution source. I urge you to protect New Mexico's water by issuing CAFO-specific rules that ensure all discharging CAFOs are covered by permits, and impose strong pollution control requirements on these polluting operations.

Sincerely, Radine Ramsey
817 Alameda Rd NW
Albuquerque, NM

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Sincerely, Paula Myers
PO BOX 37415
Albuquerque, NM

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Sincerely, Kristin Vyhna
453 Live Oak Ln NE
Albuquerque, NM

To: New Mexico Water Quality Control Commissioner William Brancard,

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Sincerely, Janet Duke
2429 Zena Lona St NE
Albuquerque, NM

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Sincerely, Margo Wyse
110 El Otro Lado Rd
Mimbres, NM

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Sincerely, Gloria McKinnon
3082 Floras del Sol St.
Santa Fe, NM

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Sincerely, Eleanore Dosten
42 County Road 111
Espanola, NM

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Sincerely, Margaret Bell
4404 De La Cruz NW
Albuquerque, NM

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Sincerely, Trina McKee
6208 Tesuque Dr NW
Albuquerque, NM

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Sincerely, Frances Allred
310 Leatherman St
Taos, NM

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Sincerely, Claire Moore
33 Cottam Rd
El Prado, NM

To: New Mexico Water Quality Control Commissioner William Brancard,

I am Dr. Smith. I urge you to protect the quality of New Mexico's water by imposing strong pollution control requirements on all discharging CAFOs. To that end, NMED must craft CAFO-specific rules that (1) eliminate loopholes present in federal regulation so that discharging CAFOs can no longer evade permitting requirements, and (2) impose more stringent pollution control and monitoring requirements on CAFOs that far exceed the ineffective federal baseline standards. Over the last several decades, food animal production has changed dramatically, with most livestock now raised in industrial-scale Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) that confine thousands of animals in small spaces. According to the most recent agricultural census data, New Mexico had 280,066 dairy cows living on mega-dairies, producing 11.5 billion pounds of manure annually - four times as much as the state's human population. This industrialization of livestock production - and the waste that comes along with it - has led to widespread water pollution. CAFO manure and wastewater is laden with numerous harmful pollutants, like nutrients, pathogens, pharmaceuticals, and heavy metals, which contaminate ground and surface water when they run off from land application fields and production areas, overflow or seep from waste storage structures, and/or redepose on land and water after volatilization. When CAFO waste pollutes our freshwater resources, it threatens the public with serious health harms associated with nitrates and

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Sincerely, Dr. Lynn Smith

317 Cordova Ln

Santa Fe, NM

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Sincerely, Rita Glasscock

1200 Camino Consuelo

Santa Fe, NM

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Sincerely, Leeondra Schuler
356 Whiteoaks Dr NE
Albuquerque, NM

To: New Mexico Water Quality Control Commissioner William Brancard,

I urge you to protect the quality of New Mexico's water by imposing strong pollution control requirements on all discharging CAFOs. To that end, NMED must craft CAFO-specific rules that (1) eliminate loopholes present in federal regulation so that discharging CAFOs can no longer evade permitting requirements, and (2) impose more stringent pollution control and monitoring requirements on CAFOs that far exceed the ineffective federal baseline standards. Over the last several decades, food animal production has changed dramatically, with most livestock now raised in industrial-scale Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) that confine thousands of animals in small spaces. According to the most recent agricultural census data, New Mexico had 280,066 dairy cows living on mega-dairies, producing 11.5 billion pounds of manure annually - four times as much as the state's human population. This industrialization of livestock production - and the waste that comes along with it - has led to widespread water pollution. CAFO manure and wastewater is laden with numerous harmful pollutants, like nutrients, pathogens, pharmaceuticals, and heavy metals, which contaminate ground and surface water when they run off from land application fields and production areas, overflow or seep from waste storage structures, and/or redepose on land and water after volatilization. When CAFO waste pollutes our freshwater resources, it threatens the public with serious health harms associated with nitrates and pathogens, causes toxic algal blooms that starve aquatic life of oxygen, and decimates water quality. Though EPA estimates that 75 percent of CAFOs

discharge, only 12 percent of New Mexico's CAFOs currently hold the required permit. Gaping loopholes in EPA's CAFO regulations have fueled this under-permitting crisis. Further, even when CAFOs are permitted, federal standards fail to effectively control their pollution. EPA's CAFO regulations ignore numerous pollutants of concern, like heavy metals and hormones, and allow CAFOs to dump waste onto cropfields in ways and at quantities that are known to harm water quality. As NMED works to build out its surface water permitting program, it has a unique opportunity to correct the fundamental flaws in federal regulation and create strong rules that ensure all discharging CAFOs obtain permits that are actually protective of surface waters. New Mexico can and should do more to protect state waters from this major pollution source. Sincerely, Janie Zackin I urge you to protect New Mexico's water by issuing CAFO-specific rules that ensure all discharging CAFOs are covered by permits, and impose strong pollution control requirements on these polluting operations.

Sincerely, Janie Zackin
109 San Salvador Ln
Santa Fe, NM

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Sincerely, Gordon Parker III
2609 Acequia Dr SW
Albuquerque, NM

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Sincerely, Beverly Nowak

702 Paseo Sandia

Bernalillo, NM

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Sincerely, B. Montoya
1704 Columbia Dr SE
Albuquerque, NM

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Sincerely, Cari Kerkhoff
4735 Tierra Encantada Ct NE
Albuquerque, NM

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Sincerely, Candace Romig
2300 Stone Pine Dr
Las Cruces, NM

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Sincerely, John Reese
163 Haynes Canyon Rd
High Rolls Mountain Park, NM

To: New Mexico Water Quality Control Commissioner William Brancard,
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Sincerely, Address
10804 Towne Park Dr NE
Albuquerque, NM

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Sincerely, Susan Diaz

1604 Avenida Cristo Rey NW
Albuquerque, NM

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Sincerely, Cassandra Hargitt
36 Pinon Ave
Cimarron, NM

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Sincerely, Anna Hansen
2008 Kiva Rd
Santa Fe, NM

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Sincerely, Erica Wendel-Oglesby
46 Vista Montana Loop
Placitas, NM

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Sincerely, Flora Martinez
611 Rio Arriba St
Las Vegas, NM

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Sincerely, Ida Campos
18 Rael Ln
Santa Fe, NM

To: New Mexico Water Quality Control Commissioner William Brancard,

I urge you to protect the quality of New Mexico's water by imposing strong pollution control requirements on all discharging CAFOs. To that end, NMED must craft CAFO-specific rules that (1) eliminate loopholes present in federal regulation so that discharging CAFOs can no longer evade permitting requirements, and (2) impose more stringent pollution control and monitoring requirements on CAFOs that far exceed the ineffective federal baseline standards. Over the last several decades, food animal production has changed dramatically, with most livestock now raised in industrial-scale Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) that confine thousands of animals in small spaces. According to the most recent agricultural census data, New Mexico had 280,066 dairy cows living on mega-dairies, producing 11.5 billion pounds of manure annually - four times as much as the state's human population. This industrialization of livestock production - and the waste that comes along with it - has led to widespread water pollution. CAFO manure and wastewater is laden with numerous harmful pollutants, like nutrients, pathogens, pharmaceuticals, and heavy metals, which contaminate ground and surface water when they run off from land application fields and production areas, overflow or seep from waste storage structures, and/or redepose on land and water after volatilization. When CAFO waste pollutes our freshwater resources, it threatens the public with serious health harms associated with nitrates and pathogens, causes toxic algal blooms that starve aquatic life of oxygen, and decimates water quality. Though EPA estimates that 75 percent of CAFOs discharge, only 12 percent of New Mexico's CAFOs currently hold the required permit. Gaping loopholes in EPA's CAFO regulations have fueled this under-permitting crisis. Further, even when CAFOs are permitted, federal standards fail to effectively control their pollution. EPA's CAFO regulations ignore numerous pollutants of concern, like heavy metals and hormones, and allow CAFOs to dump waste onto cropfields in ways and at quantities that are known to harm water quality. As NMED works to build out its surface water permitting program, it has a unique opportunity to correct the fundamental flaws in federal regulation and create strong rules that ensure all discharging CAFOs obtain permits that are actually protective of surface waters. New Mexico can and should do more to protect state waters from this major pollution source. I urge you to protect New Mexico's water by issuing CAFO-specific rules that ensure all discharging CAFOs are covered by permits, and impose strong pollution control requirements on these polluting operations.

Sincerely, Karen Boehler
33 Mark Rd
Roswell, NM

To: New Mexico Water Quality Control Commissioner William Brancard,

Stop factory farm pollution in our state! I urge you to protect the quality of New Mexico's water by imposing strong pollution control requirements on all discharging CAFOs. To that end, NMED must craft CAFO-specific rules that (1) eliminate loopholes present in federal regulation so that discharging CAFOs can no longer evade permitting requirements, and (2) impose more stringent pollution control and monitoring requirements on CAFOs that far exceed the ineffective federal baseline standards. Over the last several decades, food animal production has changed dramatically, with most livestock now raised in industrial-scale Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) that confine thousands of animals in small spaces. According to the most recent agricultural census data, New Mexico had 280,066 dairy cows living on mega-dairies, producing 11.5 billion pounds of manure annually - four times as much as the state's human population. This industrialization of livestock production - and the waste that comes along with it - has led to widespread water pollution. CAFO manure and wastewater is laden with numerous harmful pollutants, like nutrients, pathogens, pharmaceuticals, and heavy metals, which contaminate ground and surface water when they run off from land application fields and production areas, overflow or seep from waste storage structures, and/or redepose on land and water after volatilization. When CAFO waste pollutes our freshwater resources, it threatens the public with serious health harms associated with

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Sincerely, Jill Joseph
3466 Cerrillos Rd
Santa Fe, NM

To: New Mexico Water Quality Control Commissioner William Brancard,
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Sincerely, Leah Gibbons
115 Moore St
Santa Fe, NM

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Sincerely, Eva Montoya
PO Box 713
Alcalde, NM

To: New Mexico Water Quality Control Commissioner William Brancard,

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Sincerely, John Thayer

PO Box 124

Buena Vista, NM

To: New Mexico Water Quality Control Commissioner William Brancard,

I urge you to protect the quality of New Mexico's water by imposing strong pollution control requirements on all discharging CAFOs. To that end, NMED must craft CAFO-specific rules that (1) eliminate loopholes present in federal regulation so that discharging CAFOs can no longer evade permitting requirements, and (2) impose more stringent pollution control and monitoring requirements on CAFOs that far exceed the ineffective federal baseline standards. Over the last several decades, food animal production has changed dramatically, with most livestock now raised in industrial-scale Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) that confine thousands of animals in small spaces. According to the most recent agricultural census data, New Mexico had 280,066 dairy cows living on mega-dairies, producing 11.5 billion pounds of manure annually - four times as much as the state's human population. This industrialization of livestock production - and the waste that comes along with it - has led to widespread water pollution. CAFO manure and wastewater is laden with numerous harmful pollutants, like nutrients, pathogens, pharmaceuticals, and heavy metals, which contaminate ground and surface water when they run off from land application fields and production areas, overflow or seep from waste storage structures, and/or redeposit on land and water after volatilization. When CAFO waste pollutes our freshwater resources, it threatens the public with serious health harms associated with nitrates and pathogens, causes toxic algal blooms that starve aquatic life of oxygen, and decimates water quality. Though EPA estimates that 75 percent of CAFOs discharge, only 12 percent of New Mexico's CAFOs currently hold the required permit. Gaping loopholes in EPA's CAFO regulations have fueled this under-permitting crisis. Further, even when CAFOs are permitted, federal standards fail to effectively control their pollution. EPA's CAFO regulations ignore numerous pollutants of concern, like heavy metals and hormones, and allow CAFOs to dump waste onto cropfields in ways and at quantities that are known to harm water quality. As NMED works to build out its surface water permitting program, it has a unique opportunity to correct the fundamental flaws in federal regulation and create strong rules that ensure all discharging CAFOs obtain permits that are actually protective of surface waters. New Mexico can and should do more to protect state waters from this major pollution source. I urge you to protect New Mexico's water by issuing CAFO-specific rules that ensure all discharging CAFOs are covered by permits, and impose strong pollution control requirements on these polluting operations.

Sincerely, Valerie Cranmer

1117 Vista del Monte Pl

Rio Communities, NM

"<https://www.supercomputingchallenge.org/node/479> Please use my grandson's water project anyway you can. I have permission to share it. Celia Einhorn Best program manager Supercomputing Challenge I urge you to protect New Mexico's water by issuing CAFO-specific rules that ensure all discharging CAFOs are covered by permits, and impose strong pollution control requirements on these polluting operations.

Sincerely, Celia Einhorn

10580 NM 337

Tijeras, NM

To: New Mexico Water Quality Control Commissioner William Brancard,

I am extremely concerned about the impact of factory farms on watersheds in our beautiful state. I'm writing you today to ask you to protect the quality of New Mexico's water by imposing strong pollution control requirements on all discharging CAFOs. To that end, NMED must craft CAFO-specific rules that (1) eliminate loopholes present in federal regulation so that discharging CAFOs can no longer evade permitting requirements, and (2) impose more stringent pollution control and monitoring requirements on CAFOs that far exceed the ineffective federal baseline standards. Over the last several decades, food animal production has changed dramatically, with most livestock now raised in industrial-scale Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) that confine thousands of animals in small spaces. According to the most recent agricultural census data, New Mexico had 280,066 dairy cows living on mega-dairies, producing 11.5 billion pounds of manure annually - four times as much as the state's human population. This industrialization of livestock production - and the waste that comes along with it - has led to widespread water pollution. CAFO manure and wastewater is laden with numerous harmful pollutants, like nutrients, pathogens, pharmaceuticals, and heavy metals, which contaminate ground and surface water when they run off from land application fields and production areas, overflow or seep from waste storage structures, and/or redepose on land and water after volatilization. When CAFO waste pollutes our freshwater resources, it threatens the public with serious health harms associated with nitrates and pathogens, causes toxic algal blooms that starve aquatic life of oxygen, and decimates water quality. Though EPA estimates that 75 percent of CAFOs discharge, only 12 percent of New Mexico's CAFOs currently hold the required permit. Gaping loopholes in EPA's CAFO regulations have fueled this under-permitting crisis. Further, even when CAFOs are permitted, federal standards fail to effectively control their pollution. EPA's CAFO regulations ignore numerous pollutants of concern, like heavy metals and hormones, and allow CAFOs to dump waste onto cropfields in ways and at quantities that are known to harm water quality. As NMED works to build out its surface water permitting program, it has a unique opportunity to correct the fundamental flaws in federal regulation and create strong rules that ensure all discharging CAFOs obtain permits that are actually protective of surface waters. New Mexico can and should do more to protect state waters from this major pollution source. Thank you! I urge you to protect New Mexico's water by issuing CAFO-specific rules that ensure all discharging CAFOs are covered by permits, and impose strong pollution control requirements on these polluting operations.

Sincerely, Lillian Makeda

PO Box 1532

Gallup, NM "

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Sincerely, Sarah Stout
1317 Luana St.
Santa Fe, NM

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Sincerely, Christine Lowry
PO Box 25
Arroyo Seco, NM

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Sincerely, Dwinell Heverly
1 Wild Flower Rd
Las Vegas, NM

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Sincerely, Denie English
4 Reina Ct W
Edgewood, NM

To: New Mexico Water Quality Control Commissioner William Brancard,

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Sincerely, Annette Ahlander
816 Kentucky St SE
Albuquerque, NM

To: New Mexico Water Quality Control Commissioner William Brancard,
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Sincerely, Marilyn Stoops
4108 Ridgeley Ave NE
Albuquerque, NM

To: New Mexico Water Quality Control Commissioner William Brancard,

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Sincerely, Barbara Folse
617 Espanola St NE
Albuquerque, NM

To: New Mexico Water Quality Control Commissioner William Brancard,

I urge you to protect the quality of New Mexico's water by imposing strong pollution control requirements on all discharging CAFOs. To that end, NMED must craft CAFO-specific rules that (1) eliminate loopholes present in federal regulation so that discharging CAFOs can no longer evade permitting requirements, and (2) impose more stringent pollution control and monitoring requirements on CAFOs that far exceed the ineffective federal baseline standards. Over the last several decades, food animal production has changed dramatically, with most livestock now raised in industrial-scale Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) that confine thousands of animals in small spaces. According to the most recent agricultural census data, New Mexico had 280,066 dairy cows living on mega-dairies, producing 11.5 billion pounds of manure annually - four times as much as the state's human population. This industrialization of livestock production - and the waste that comes along with it - has led to widespread water pollution. CAFO manure and wastewater is laden with numerous harmful pollutants, like nutrients, pathogens, pharmaceuticals, and heavy metals, which contaminate ground and surface water when they run off from land application fields and production areas, overflow or seep from waste storage structures, and/or redepose on land and water after volatilization. When CAFO waste pollutes our freshwater resources, it threatens the public with serious health harms associated with nitrates and pathogens, causes toxic algal blooms that starve

aquatic life of oxygen, and decimates water quality. Though EPA estimates that 75 percent of CAFOs discharge, only 12 percent of New Mexico's CAFOs currently hold the required permit. Gaping loopholes in EPA's CAFO regulations have fueled this under-permitting crisis. Further, even when CAFOs are permitted, federal standards fail to effectively control their pollution. EPA's CAFO regulations ignore numerous pollutants of concern, like heavy metals and hormones, and allow CAFOs to dump waste onto cropfields in ways and at quantities that are known to harm water quality. As NMED works to build out its surface water permitting program, it has a unique opportunity to correct the fundamental flaws in federal regulation and create strong rules that ensure all discharging CAFOs obtain permits that are actually protective of surface waters. New Mexico can and should do more to protect state waters from this major pollution source. I urge you to protect New Mexico's water by issuing CAFO-specific rules that ensure all discharging CAFOs are covered by permits, and impose strong pollution control requirements on these polluting operations.

Sincerely, Evangelina Serrano
8416 Hilton Ave NE Apt 5B
Albuquerque, NM

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Sincerely, Eva Balzer
100 Eastlook
Santa Fe, NM

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Sincerely, Steve V.
8915 Central Ave NE
Albuquerque, NM

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Sincerely, Catherine Lacey
802 Spruce St
Truth Or Consequences, NM

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Sincerely, Bernice Martinez
4777 Southern Ave SE
Albuquerque, NM

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Sincerely, Elizabeth Duran
515 Hummingbird Dr
Las Cruces, NM

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Sincerely, Megan Tatnall
2005 Bellamah Dr
Las Cruces, NM

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Sincerely, Cindy Sneeringer
1408 Paseo Norteno
Santa Fe, NM

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Sincerely, Pamela Sriharsha
3715 Viale Cetona
Santa Fe, NM

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Sincerely, Rosario H Torres
650 Alta Vista St Apt A1
Santa Fe, NM

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Sincerely, Robert Cole
3498 White Horse Dr SE
Rio Rancho, NM

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Sincerely, Alexa Reynaud
304 La Luz Dr.
Taos, NM

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Sincerely, Donald Helfrich
906 Grandview Dr SE
Albuquerque, NM

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Sincerely, Maria Whitaker
1216 Gold Ave SW Apt F
Albuquerque, NM

To: New Mexico Water Quality Control Commissioner William Brancard,

I urge you to protect the quality of New Mexico's water by imposing strong pollution control requirements on all discharging CAFOs. To that end, NMED must craft CAFO-specific rules that (1) eliminate loopholes present in federal regulation so that discharging CAFOs can no longer evade permitting requirements, and (2) impose more stringent pollution control and monitoring requirements on CAFOs that far exceed the ineffective federal baseline standards. Over the last several decades, food animal production has changed dramatically, with most livestock now raised in industrial-scale Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) that confine thousands of animals in small spaces. According to the most recent agricultural census data, New Mexico had 280,066 dairy cows living on mega-dairies, producing 11.5 billion pounds of manure annually - four times as much as the state's human population. This industrialization of livestock production - and the waste that comes along with it - has led to widespread water pollution. CAFO manure and wastewater is laden with numerous harmful pollutants, like nutrients, pathogens, pharmaceuticals, and heavy metals, which contaminate ground and surface water when they run off from land application fields and production areas, overflow or seep from waste storage structures, and/or redepose on land and water after volatilization. When CAFO waste pollutes our freshwater resources, it threatens the public with serious health harms associated with nitrates and pathogens, causes toxic algal blooms that starve aquatic life of oxygen, and decimates water quality. Though EPA estimates that 75 percent of CAFOs discharge, only 12 percent of New Mexico's CAFOs currently hold the required permit. Gaping loopholes in EPA's CAFO regulations have fueled this under-permitting crisis. Further, even when CAFOs are permitted, federal standards fail to effectively control their pollution. EPA's CAFO regulations ignore numerous pollutants of concern, like heavy metals and hormones, and allow CAFOs to dump waste onto cropfields in ways and at quantities that are known to harm water quality. As NMED works to build out its surface water permitting program, it has a unique opportunity to correct the fundamental flaws in federal regulation and create strong rules that ensure all discharging CAFOs obtain permits that are actually protective of surface waters. New Mexico can and should do more to protect state waters from this major pollution source. I urge you to protect New Mexico's water by issuing CAFO-specific rules that ensure all discharging CAFOs are covered by permits, and impose strong pollution control requirements on these polluting operations.

Sincerely, Catherine Lynch
8301 4th St NW Bldg 6
Los Ranchos, NM

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Sincerely, Brenda Cross Woodrome
Rio Rancho, NM

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Sincerely, Donna Koechner
1124 Monte Alto Ct NE
Albuquerque, NM

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Sincerely, Carol Sassaman
PO Box 305
Hanover, NM