

intense, toxic fumes emitted from the raw manures trucked in to make compost to grow mushrooms on? [found in legal document of over approx. 10 years ago]? ? ?
County chose to permit buildings right up to Ostrom's fence, as well as across street.

?The fumes adversely affect all in at least a ONE?+? MILE radius.

Frequency is intermittent; severity varies from blindingly, chokingly strong, to faint.

Ostrom's rep? strongly? claim?ed? "it only emits ammonia" [January 2018 meeting]. ?

I don't know if she simply never used ammonia herself, so doesn't know what that smells like? ?

BUT....there's far more emitted?.

Our back fence is common with Ostrom's. We get way too much of it. Cannot risk opening windows to try for "fresh air"...at any moment, the stench can assault us; windows safer closed!

Emissions include?:?

? ?H₂S [Hydrogen Sulfide], Methane, and who knows what else.?

It might contain ammonia...but that's not safe to breath in heavy concentrations, either!

And, any smell of ammonia, is utterly overwhelmed by the H₂S.

BOTH are dangerous in the often high concentrations we get here.

No matter what animal manure comes from, there will be H₂S, methane and other gasses, emitted as it rots; that is the same "sewer gas" marker everyone else is forbidden to let-loose in the air, per rules controlling sewage.

It's also in rules governing "Ag-pits".

County ignored all that.

Apparently, so do Air Quality Control workers?

Realtors selling houses here deliberately avoid disclosing how bad it is, to buyers. There are supposedly laws requiring disclosure of conditions of a property which might cause problems.

Not only had the bank/flippers/house inspector concealed some costly defects, our realtor said: "You might notice a slight, occasional odor from the farm next door".? ??

I replied: "I've repeatedly told you that Air Quality is a big issue; 3 of the 4 people who propose to live here, have asthma. IF this issue is bad, it's a deal-breaker for this property, for us."

I realized too late, that she really never responded to that; she was very good at changing subjects. ?

In 7 years of casual looking, in 4 Counties, I learned: dishonesty in real estate and related industries, is rampant.

EVIDENCE of H₂S:

A particularly hard, laquer-like, dark charcoal-color tarnish on silver and copper.

Pressure Treated lumber, because of the copper content, turns that color, too.

?S?ilver jewelry or utensils? turn much faster, even, than those change in Utah, where soft coal has historically been used for winter heating?; the sulfur compounds in both coal and H₂S, are what causes it?.

I toured ?Ostrom's; observed workers, mostly foreign-born, working close?- around the sources of the emissions, yet, ZERO protective ?breathing ?gear, not even simple charcoal masks.

People can die from too much exposure to those fumes:

?<http://www.digitaljournal.com/article/259545>? ?

H2S causes scarring of airways, neurological damage, nausea, burning eyes and airways, when at the concentrations often emitted here? [per government guidelines? found online]?

? [burning/watering eyes and airways, choking airways, feel dizzy, nauseous...that's indicating too-high concentrations]

So...

----WHY do the Air Quality Board, County, and Ostrom's, ALL use minimizing language?

? ?...It fools people into thinking these emissions are not dangerous, just "nuisance odors"?

----WHY is no one tracking this, collecting data, etc.?

? ...The Air Quality Board claims penury: they cannot afford special equipment needed; that it would cost them over \$30K.?

...Yet, in the past couple years, 2 or more Indego offers for pocket-sized Air Quality monitoring devices, each of which cost under \$500, and, are capable of adding more types of monitoring sensors for these emissions, on later models, or as add-ons for the initial model.

...There was even an "Instructable" segment, to show how to DIY an air monitor, and the guy suggested some bits that could make it monitor exactly these gasses!

----WHY does the Air Quality Board refuse to monitor the frequency, content, and severity of the emissions?

? ...One told me: "we place monitors far away from pollution sources, so we can get an idea how far the pollutant sources travel"; and, "no, we never monitor Ostrom's".?

----WHY doesn't Nisqually Middle School, across the street from Ostrom's, ever call "Bad Air Days", to protect kids' lungs, by keeping them indoors during bad emissions?

? ...?The school nurse was utterly unaware of what those even were, and said, "?no, we've never done that"?

----WHY do Doctors in the area avoid connecting the dots, between frequency/severity of breathing disorders, and the prevalence of these emissions?

? ...Multiple Industry influencers?

We'll never know how many may have developed breathing ills from this place, because all the entities responsible for tracking it or controlling it, seem to be assiduously avoiding it.?

?

Ostrom's apparently has been doing nothing to protect their workers from those concentrated fumes?, far worse on-site, than even what we get? over their fence line.

? ?High turn-over of employees who work in their yard????

? ?Is anyone tracking those workers' health conditions?? ?

Who will help us ?

Action

On-Site Response

NOV#

Will forward complaint to Ostrom's and schedule an inspection.