

Friends of Toppenish Creek



March 12, 2021

Cheri Sullivan
Program Manager, Dairy Nutrient Management Program, WSDA
P.O. Box 42560
1111 Washington St. SE
Olympia, WA 98504-2560

Dear Ms. Sullivan,

My name is Jean Mendoza, and I am the Executive Director for the Friends of Toppenish Creek (FOTC). People who live along and near Vance Road in Mabton, have asked FOTC to help them address problems they experience because they live next to the Riverview Dairy, located at 1220 Vance Road, Mabton WA 98935. I am speaking for people who work hard every day and do not have the luxury of time to engage in endless discussions that lead nowhere. In a nutshell, this dairy is not a good neighbor.

Odors and dust from the dairy are a big part of the problem. As you know, polluted air harms the health of all people, especially young children and there are children in this neighborhood. If you have children, you understand the basic need of children to run and play in the out of doors. If you try to keep a clean house you know how difficult this is when dust is all around, especially when that dust is fecal dust. If you like to entertain you understand that foul odors put a damper on a barbecue. If you have family members with asthma and respiratory problems, you understand that some people cannot catch their breath when air is polluted.

No one should have to walk through manure in order to reach their mailboxes. The neighbors who live near Riverview Dairy have signed a petition to WSDA and others asking local and state government to actively address the problems in their neighborhood. That petition with supporting documents is attached. We ask you to direct your dairy inspectors to actively address the pollution from Riverview Dairy. We ask for a response to this letter.

Yours truly in pursuit of an equitable and environmentally friendly state.

Jean Mendoza

3142 Signal Peak Road
White Swan, WA 98952

Petition to WA State Dept of Ecology, WA State Dept of Agriculture &
Yakima County

February/March 2021

Respected Officials:

These are the facts:

- Rural county roads in the Lower Yakima Valley (LYV), for example Vance Road north of Mabton, are frequently covered with manure track out from trucks that transport manure from dairies to farmland.
- People in the LYV cannot walk to their mailboxes, cannot jog, without stepping in manure.
- Large trucks and heavy equipment on rural roads break down the edges of the pavement and create potholes.
- When dairies do not address the problem, flies from manure piles proliferate and make it impossible for rural neighbors to enjoy the outdoors, to barbecue or entertain family and friends.
- Dust from pens, corrals and compost areas are a major problem for rural neighbors, perhaps the biggest problem. We know that dust and fine particulate matter harm our health and reduce our life spans. There are actions that dairies can take to reduce dust, but they often do not take them. The Yakima Regional Clean Air Agency does nothing to address air pollution from dairies.

For these reasons, we the undersigned, ask the Yakima County Commissioners to:

- Estimate the cost to taxpayers for maintenance of rural county roads that experience heavy use by dairy trucks and heavy equipment.
- Assess whether users that damage the roads adequately compensate the county.
- Provide a hotline so people in the LYV can report manure spills to people who can compel quick clean up.

- Encourage Ecology and WSDA to enforce the anti-spill provisions of Nutrient Management Plans.
- Require the Yakima Health District to actively address the problem of flies from dairies.
- Require the Yakima Regional Clean Air Agency to respond to citizen complaints; to follow their own guidelines for complaint investigation, measure air quality near dairies, and appropriately issue citations.

Sincerely,

Joe A. ... * ~~Maria ...~~ 1191 Vance Rd

Mabton W.A.

X *Vanessa Delgado* 970 ^{Mabton Wn.} Ferry Road 509-831-1011

X *Farir Gutierrez* 910 Ferry Rd WABTON
509-831-502

+ *JOSE OATEGA* 780 Ferry Rd. (509) 840-2030

By signing this petition, you join others in bringing LYV pollution problems to the attention of the Yakima County Commissioners. You are under no obligation to take part in further action. You will receive a copy of the Yakima County response.

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Sincerely,

Randy Hecker

Randy Hecker

1270 McPherson Rd - 1192 Vance Rd

Selah, WA 98942

Mabton, WA 98935

x Sauline Fredenke

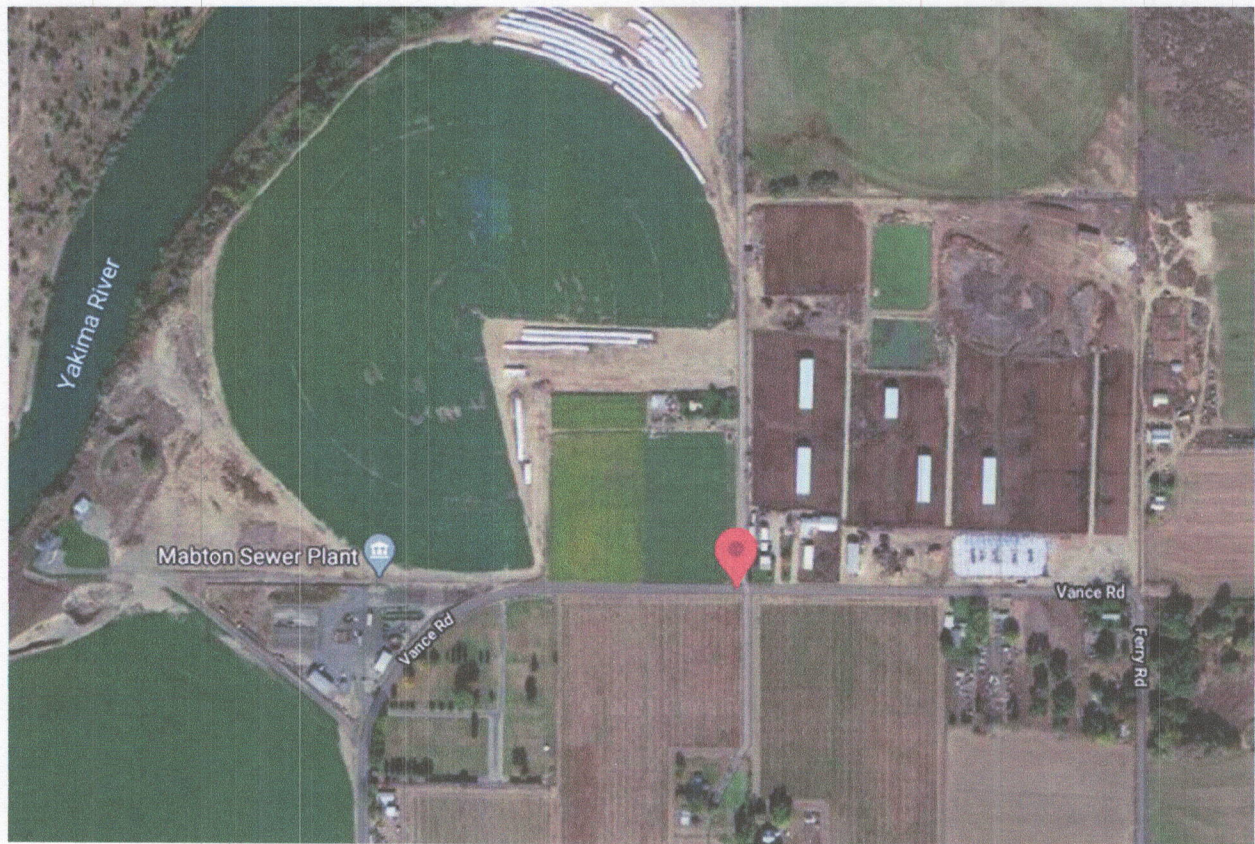
1331 Vance Rd
Mabton, WA 98935

W Ball Dept

1351 Vance Rd
Mabton, WA 98935

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Google Map – Riverview Dairy, Mabton WA



School Bus Disappearing in Dairy Dust on Vance Road, October 2017

