

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,

Randy Hecker

Randy Hecker

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Selah, WA 98942

Mabton, WA 98935

x Saul One Breder

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Mabton, WA 98935

W Ball Dep

1351 Vance Rd
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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,

*Joe A. [Signature] * [Signature] 1191 Vance Rd*

Mabton W.A.

X *Vanessa Delgado 910~~th~~ Ferry Road 509-831-1011*

X *Farir Gutierrez 910 Ferry Rd WABTON*
509 846 2350

X *JOSE OATEGA 780 Ferry Rd. (509) 846-2030*

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