

To the Senate Committee on Energy and Environment:

My name is Lyn Gorman and I am a resident of Scio, Oregon. I am writing in support of SB 583. However, I am concerned that the bill omits other types of industrial animal operations that are an enormous threat to our land and communities. Currently Foster Farms, a California based company, is trying to expand its industrial chicken operations into our community. I am finding it is very difficult to stop this type of operation because Oregon's laws regarding these operations are extremely weak and the Oregon Department of Agriculture is basically a rubber stamp of these operations.

In researching what will happen to the area if these operations are allowed and I have found the following facts:

- This operation will grow out 3.48 MILLION birds per year which will release 182-287 TONS of ammonia per year in a 2000 m (2187 yard) radius.
- The operation is just over 441 m (483 yards) from the North Santiam River (which is protected under the 3 Basin rule as a watershed river).
- There are Salmon and Steelhead in the North Santiam that are listed under the Endangered Species Act as threatened.
- The Industrial Chicken operation is located on the portion of the river that has the best salmon and steelhead spawning and rearing habitat left in the Willamette valley.
- This operation is located directly across the river from ODFW land that was purchased for salmon and steelhead habitat. (How can one state agency be allowed to permit something that will destroy something another state agency is tasked with protecting)?
- Ammonia, fecal matter, bacteria (including MRSA) and veterinary drugs will be exhausted from the buildings by giant fans.
- The Ammonia will land in the river and will also land on the farm fields. When the ammonia hits water it will convert to nitrates.
- The nitrates will cause algal blooms that will kill fish. They will also contaminate the drinking water wells of the residents surrounding the farm and the drinking water for the city of Jefferson.
- My research of published scientific studies shows that this amount ammonia is likely to trigger blue green algae growth which will not only result in taking of endangered species, but it is toxic to humans and animals. As I am sure you are aware, blue green algae blooms trigger boil water orders because there is no way to treat this out of the water.
- The research I have amassed regarding the health impacts to humans from these industrial chicken farms is best described as catastrophic.

Our community will be forever changed by this industrial chicken operation. Our clean drinking water will be gone. Our recreational opportunities will be gone. Our farmers will be harmed by the pollutants exhausted by this operation. The salmon and steelhead that we value will be gone. All of this loss is for what?

These chickens will be shipped to Kelso, WA for processing. The Kelso Washington slaughter plant has received approval to export chicken to China and there is no independent confirmation that these chickens will stay in the US. As legislators, are you willing to allow an out of state company to come in

and destroy our fertile farm fields, pollute our river, poison our drinking water, drain our aquifers and destroy our rural property values for cheap chicken that we aren't even sure stays on shore?

I strongly urge you to add an amendment to SB 583 to include ALL industrial animal operations, not just industrial dairies, and to then pass SB 583 into law.

Sincerely,

Lyn Gorman

**All information stated in the bullet points is supported by peer reviewed published scientific journal articles. Should you wish to receive copies of the journal articles please reach out and I will provide them.