

Members of the Oregon Legislature,

Thank you for accepting my testimony today.

I am asking you to please support SB 583 which places a moratorium on new-mega-dairies until the work can be completed to prevent the negative effects they have on our Gorge Communities. As a twenty year resident of the Gorge, my family and I have seen the quality of our air quality worsen over time due to industries like the mega-dairies. Our daughter runs cross country at Hood River Valley High School. Over the years we have attended a number of her races at Sorosis Park in the The Dalles. Prior to the race we all look out at what should be a breathtaking view of the Columbia River and Hills - but with pangs of concern. What should be an awesome vista is often ominous.

Our daughter finishes her race and I run up to congratulate her on her hard work and focus. In response she says "it hurts." I immediately ask her if she means her shinsplints or knees. In reply she says "No, my lungs. I'm fit, but the air is dirty and it hurts." This is unacceptable anywhere and in particular the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area.

When industries in the Gorge negatively effect our health and the health of our children it's time to push the pause button and solve the problem. We need to do that now by placing a moratorium on new mega-dairies in the Gorge and take care of the problems with the present mega-dairies that should be run in an environmentally sustainable manner or not at all.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.