

Chair Golden and members of the committee:

Our family has owned a farm on Thomas Creek Drive in Scio for about 50 years. We farm grass seed, raise cattle and grow timber. Our property includes approximately a mile of Thomas Creek frontage and is across the creek from a proposed industrial chicken farm.

I am writing to express my support for SB 85-1.

As a long-term property owner and community member, I am deeply troubled by the proposed massive poultry operation looking to be sited approximately a mile from our farm. An operation of the scale and nature proposed will have a significant detrimental impact on our rural communities, our farms and our ranches.

Those of us who farm and ranch know that these massive operations will negatively impact our air, water and the safety and livability of our local communities. It is also clear that our current laws and regulations have not kept up to date with the impacts that these operations could have.

Specifically, I am troubled that Oregon does not currently regulate air emissions from large CAFOs; **one of the proposals is for 4.6 million birds less than a mile from a school.** The negative impacts on the air quality from an operation of this scale will be severe and pose real health risks to neighboring properties. The state also does not limit the amount of groundwater that these operations can use, even when a facility is being proposed in a groundwater management area like ours that is known to have a limited quantity of ground water. Heavy industrial truck traffic to and from the proposed facility on narrow local roads that were not designed to handle that intensity and volume of large trucks will create safety issues, noise pollution and further impact air quality. Lastly, we have been told by our county commissioners

that the state has taken away their authority to put any reasonable safeguards on where mega poultry operations can be sited, which is ludicrous particularly when the county has a much better understanding of the local area and how these operations could negatively impact local farms, rural businesses and the people living here.

For all the above reasons, it is only prudent that we put a pause on the permitting of new and expanding CAFOs until we can adequately study and address the impacts that these operations will have on our state and local communities.

Please support SB 85-1.

Thank you for your consideration.

Beth Bartlett
Manager
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