



March 22, 2023

Chair Golden and members of the Senate Natural Resources committee,

My name is Lilli DiPaola and I am testifying today on behalf of the Stand Up to Factory Farms coalition, in support of SB 85-1 and in opposition to the -3 amendment.

The coalition has worked tirelessly to address the harmful impacts of mega-dairies in our state, and to amend the bill to focus solely on poultry facilities would ignore the egregious harms of these facilities that we have all witnessed.

The permitting, pollution, and subsequent closure of the Lost Valley mega-dairy was not an isolated incident. Rather, it is symptomatic of the greater problem: Oregon's weak regulations and practice of rubber-stamping factory farm permits makes it entirely too easy for these disasters to occur.

Lost Valley was a warning -- if we continue to permit these facilities, it will be the tax-paying Oregonians who are left holding the bag. Instead of heeding this warning, the Department of Agriculture and Department of Environmental Quality are still considering approving the Easterday dairy at the exact same site, suggesting they couldn't say "no" to Easterday's Oregon mega-dairy application, showing our regulations are insufficient to protect our water and rural communities from mega-dairies, not just chicken facilities.

To amend SB 85 to focus solely on poultry factory farms while rural Oregonians face a state of emergency because their water is so polluted with nitrates that it is not safe to drink, is a clear environmental injustice. It is this drinking water emergency that makes a factory farm moratorium so urgent. We need more than a two year pause to ensure that we can develop regulatory solutions to this broken system. If we cannot ensure every Oregonian has access to clean drinking water, we cannot be building more polluting facilities in the state. On behalf of the Stand Up to Factory Farms coalition, I urge you to vote yes for SB 85-1 and not the -3 amendment. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Lilli DiPaola
Coalition Organizer
Stand Up to Factory Farms

