

October 28, 2013

The Honorable Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20500

RE: America's Small Businesses Need Protection from CAFO Pollution

Dear President Obama:

On behalf of the more than 150 undersigned businesses, we write to urge your immediate action on an issue that threatens small businesses across the country: pollution from concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs).

As a candidate for president and during the transition, you promised to control pollution from industrial livestock operations. Now, four and a half years later, information on CAFO locations and manure generation has not been assembled, CAFO pollution in many communities is inadequately controlled, and many CAFOs operate without permits under the Clean Water Act (CWA). This is of significant concern for small businesses that rely on clean water for their survival. Your administration has said that small businesses are the engines of job creation and essential to strengthening our national economy. Therefore, we urge you to follow through on your promise to strengthen the permitting requirements for CAFOs and regulate them as the industrial operations they are.

According to a report prepared by state and federal regulators, U.S. livestock facilities generate on the order of one billion tons of manure every year. That waste can cause pollution in the form of runoff into streams, lakes and bays – causing fish kills and beach closures, creating dead zones and algal blooms, interfering with drinking water treatment systems, and risking public health. Ultimately, small-business owners who rely on activity in or around those bodies of water can be left struggling to meet their bottom line.

CAFOs are one of the greatest uncontrolled sources of pollution to some of our nation's most prized waterways. Without stronger, more comprehensive regulations, CAFO pollution will continue to pose a threat to small businesses like ours that rely on clean water. Therefore we urge you to direct the EPA to strengthen permit regulations for CAFOs under the Clean Water Act, to ensure that public health, the environment, and small businesses across the United States are protected.

Thank you for considering our views and your commitment to support small businesses.

Sincerely,

[A Victorian Swan on Water B&B](#) (WI)
[Aerospace Research Systems, Inc.](#) (OH)
[Amber Westerman Design](#) (WI)
[Animaashi Sailing Company](#) (WI)

[Animal Daycare & Boarding](#) (AK)
[Annel and Drews Kitchen](#) (CA)
[Anybody's Bike Shop](#) (WI)
Arcata Scoop (CA)

[Artful Change](#) (CA)
[Ballet Freak](#) (CA)
[berryBlest Organic Farm](#) (CA)
[Blaine Dougherty Farm](#) (WA)
[Blind Faith Cafe](#) (IL)
[Blue Bike Burrito](#) (WI)
[Bon Appetit Management Company](#) (CA)
[C&R Ranch LP](#) (WA)
[Cafe Wren](#) (WI)
[Cape Fear River Adventures, LLC](#) (NC)
[Carve Designs, Inc.](#) (CA)
[Casper's Marina](#) (NC)
[Catch a Canoe & Bicycles](#) (CA)
[Charly's Market](#) (WI)
[Chez Panisse](#) (CA)
[Chicago River Canoe & Kayak](#) (IL)
[Chip Magnet](#) (WI)
[Compass Natural LLC](#) (CO)
[CrawDaddy Outdoors](#) (IA)
[Creekside Gardens](#) (OH)
[Crooked Creek Organics and Property Management, LLC](#) (IN)
[Crop Bar and Bistro](#) (OH)
[Dog-Paddle Kayaks](#) (WI)
[Dove Imaging](#) (NC)
[Dr Bugs Charter](#) (OH)
[e2taxi](#) (IN)
[Eco Caters](#) (CA)
[Elements Engineering, LLC](#) (IN)
[EnviroKure](#) (PA)
[Evening Star Farms, Inc](#) (MO)
[Filtrex International](#) (OH)
[Fine Acres](#) (WI)
[Flying Pig](#) (CA)
[ForageSF](#) (CA)
[Forest Agriculture Enterprises](#) (WI)
[Frog Hollow Outdoors](#) (NC)
[GO Local NC Farms](#) (NC)
[Golden Properties](#) (WI)
[Goose the Market](#) (IN)
[Gracias Madre](#) (CA)
[Green Grocer Chicago](#) (IL)
[Green Island](#) (MN)
[Habitats Northwest](#) (WA)
[Half Moon Tea & Spice](#) (WI)
[Harvest Local Foods](#) (PA)
[Hobos Restaurant + Bar](#) (DE)
[Hozho International](#) (AZ)
[International Design Source](#) (CA)
[J R Organics](#) (CA)
[Jeff Dougherty Farm](#) (WA)
[Jimbo's...Naturally!](#) (CA)
[Karen Bowman & Associates, Inc.](#) (WA)
[Kavarna Coffeehouse](#) (WI)
[Kelley Green Web](#) (OH)
[Knoll Farms, LLC](#) (CA)
[Kruthaup Family Farm](#) (OH)
[Lester Dougherty Farm](#) (WA)
[Local Alternative Inc.](#) (AZ)
[LocalHarvest](#) (CA)
[Lucques](#) (CA)
[Luminous Adventures](#) (AZ)
[Maple Hill Sugar Bush](#) (MN)
[McGrath Family Farms](#) (CA)
[Mendo Bistro](#) (CA)
[Mindful Meats](#) (CA)
[MOM's Organic Market](#) (MD)
[Moncai Vegan](#) (CA)
[Monticello Seasonal Cuisine](#) (CA)
[Mr. K Beach Rentals](#) (NJ)
[My Edible Eden](#) (IN)
[New Forest Farms](#) (WI)
[Next Step Energy](#) (WI)
[Nika Water Company](#) (CA)
[North Shore Expeditions](#) (MN)
[Northern Arizona Sustainable Economic Development Initiative](#) (AZ)
[Ocean Beach People's Organic Food Market](#) (CA)
[Olive, Fine Organic Living](#) (WI)
[Oliveto Cafe & Restaurant](#) (CA)
[One Fresh Meal](#) (CA)
[Organic Pastures Dairy Company LLC](#) (CA)
[Paddle and Trail](#) (IL)
[PADI Americas](#) (CA)
[Peachtree Market](#) (NC)
[Permaculture Activists](#) (IN)

[Pine Harbor Campground](#) (WI)
[Plan It Green Printing](#) (CA)
[Pokez Mexican Restaurant and Vegetarian Cuisine](#) (CA)
[Popina Swimwear](#) (OR)
[Quick and Fit](#) (CA)
Ranchera (DE)
[Rancho de los Proyectos](#) (CA)
[Reddout Orchards](#) (WA)
[Revolutionary Grounds](#) (AZ)
[Rice & Beans, LA](#) (CA)
[River's Access LLC](#) (IA)
[Rivers Edge](#) (AZ)
[Rowland's Row Family Farm](#) (NC)
RS Joint Venture (WA)
[Rutabaga Paddlesports LLC](#) (WI)
[Sandy's Clothing and Art](#) (WI)
[Saturn Cafe](#) (CA)
Scott Collin Ranch (WA)
[Second Wind Eco Tours](#) (NC)
[Seed Kitchen by Mugen LLC](#) (CA)
[Shepard's Hard Cyder](#) (WI)
[Sisu Kind Food](#) (DC)
SLO Restaurant Concepts, LLC (AZ)
[Smoking Goose](#) (IN)
[Stan Clauson & Associates](#) (CO)
[Stanford Inn's Mendocino Center for Living Well](#) (CA)
[Star Sailor Energy, Inc](#) (OH)
[Studio Fit](#) (DE)
[Studio One](#) (WI)
[Surf, Wind and Fire](#) (NC)
[Swarthmore Co-op](#) (PA)
[Tara Firma Farms](#) (CA)
[The Barefoot Cook](#) (TX)
[The Expedition Organization](#) (NC)
[The Farm on the St. Mathias](#) (MN)
[The Flying Pig, LLC](#) (WI)
[The Hungry Cat](#) (CA)
[The Local Butcher Shop](#) (CA)
[The Penrose B&B](#) (AZ)
[The Purple Tree](#) (WI)
[The Stanford Inn by the Sea](#) (CA)
[The Wine Bar](#) (IA)
Thompson Farms (WA)
[Tidal Creek Cooperative Food Market](#) (NC)
[Token Creek Eco-Inn](#) (WI)
[Trail Creek Outfitters](#) (PA)
[TranXend PCB Design Services](#) (AZ)
[True Blue Housekeeping](#) (WI)
[Uncommon Ground](#) (IL)
[Valentine Hill Farms](#) (IN)
[Venice Merchant](#) (CA)
[Wag The Dog Productions](#) (WI)
[Waterloo & City](#) (CA)
[Wellwood Center Bed and Breakfast](#) (AK)
[Whipper Snapper Restaurant](#) (CA)
[Wholesome2Go](#) (CA)
[Wild River Outfitters](#) (WI)
[Wilderness Rites](#) (OR)
[Wisconsin Canoe Company](#) (WI)

CC: Gina McCarthy, Administrator, U.S. E.P.A.

Nancy Sutley, Chair, White House Council on Environmental Quality