

## THE FACTS ON VALLEY OAKS CAFO (Contained Animal Feeding Operation)

- Per Valley Oaks' permit application, they expect to manage 106,212 tons of manure produced per year – 290 tons per day for 6999 cattle. Then it will be stored in a barn that can hold 985,215 cubic feet of manure until it is spread on fields or bagged and sold. (VO DNR Permit Application)
- Each cow will be housed in a 5x10-foot “run” (open-sided building that is roofed) for more than 45 days while fed out before slaughter, producing 96 pounds of manure every day. Barns are only going to be cleaned every 45 days, according to the permit application.
- One cow produces as much waste per day as 20-40 humans (avg. 30). That results in the same amount of sewage handled per day for a city of nearly 210,000 people...that would be Independence and Lee's Summit, MO, combined! Bacteria and protozoans found in stored manure include Listeria, E Coli, Salmonella, Cryptosporidia and Giardia. (Pathogens in Manure, John H. Kirk, DVM, MPVM, University of California – Davis)
- VOCs (volatile organic compounds) and dry materials like manure and feed dust can result in damage to the liver, kidney and central nervous system, as well as various types of cancer. Exposure can also lead to respiratory complications, premature death for people with heart or lung disease, and even paralysis of the respiratory system from high levels of hydrogen sulfide (EPA OIG analysis, Table 1: Emission sources & health effects of key pollutants from AFOs)
- From the slaughtering aspect, “hides, offal and bones are sold, and wastewater will be contained in lagoons that allow it to evaporate,” per Jake Huddleston, manager of Valley Oaks Steak Company's national sales and operations manager.
- Contrary to what many say, this operation is not located “in the country”. At least 154 homes are located within 1.5 miles of the CAFO site --more than 10 times that of the average for all other CAFOs in the KC region (14.67), and it is nearly 12 times that of the average for the other two cattle CAFOs in Missouri (11.84). In addition, more than 880 homes are located within three miles of the CAFO. If you average 880 homes, with just three people per home, that is 2,640 people in a THREE-mile area – more population than the town of Holden, MO! (Google maps)
- County officials and VO has stated that this operation will employ up to 100 employees. The permit application states the operation will have a total of 30 employees. It isn't a huge employer for the area. (Warrensburg Daily Star-Journal articles)

This isn't about the smell of manure, and we fully understand how meat gets to stores. Our children go to school with yours. We are your neighbors. We know we, as a nation, are feeding more people than ever before, with less agricultural land than ever before. We believe in families, farms and farmers. We don't believe in animal factories.