

Hello, this is _____, I'm a member of the Maiden Rock Town Board's Operations Ordinance Study Commission. We are tasked by the Town Board to study the impact of CAFOs in the town. My phone call is to follow up on a letter you should've received from the Maiden Rock Board of Supervisors.

In case you were unable to read their letter, I am calling to let you know that your land is listed as available for manure spreading on the Nutrient Management Plan of Ridge Breeze Dairy, a factory farm that is planning to expand to 6,500 cows in the Town of Salem. Were you aware of this?

Are you aware of some of the potential risks associated with allowing a factory farm the size of Ridge Breeze to spread on your land?

This waste can pollute drinking water with bacteria, viruses and nitrates. In addition, Ridge Breeze Dairy has stated publicly that they want to install biodigester technology and spread the byproduct. Land application of this byproduct "may have a higher risk for both ground and surface water quality problems," according to the Natural Resources Conservation Service Federal Code. If you have a well that gets contaminated, it will be up to you to replace it or install a Reverse Osmosis system.

This is a risk concerning many neighbors in our Township and we're wondering if you've you've been made aware of it, does it also concerns you?

We have email communications between Ridge Breeze Dairy and the DNR that shows that you, or the people working your land, may be on the hook for installation of a grassed waterway in the case of erosion getting out of control. Typically, the CAFO pays for this installation, but Ridge Breeze has told the DNR that this is not their responsibility, meaning it could be up to you to pay thousands of dollars to install a grassed waterway.

Does that concern you?

If you would like to avoid these risks, you can ask that the DNR removes your land from the Nutrient Management Plan. If you like to do that I can give you the name of the person to contact in the DNR.

THANK you for your time.

Jeff Jackson - DNR Wastewater Specialist
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