

February 16, 2022

The Honorable Patrick Leahy  
Senate Committee on Appropriations  
S-128 The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Jeff Merkley  
Senate Subcommittee on Appropriations  
Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies  
Room S-128 The Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
House Committee on Appropriations  
H-307 The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Chellie Pingree  
House Subcommittee on Appropriations  
Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies  
H-307 The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairpersons Leahy and DeLauro; Subcommittee Chairpersons Merkley and Pingree:

We the undersigned organizations support the mandatory reporting and regulation of greenhouse gas emissions from factory farms and manure management operations. For years, these efforts have been blocked through appropriations riders. We urge you to ensure Congress does not include these legacy appropriations riders, which prevent EPA from taking steps to monitor and regulate greenhouse gas emissions from the factory farm industry, in the FY 2022 Appropriation for the Environmental Protection Agency.

EPA has established authorities under the Clean Air Act that it could use to regulate air emissions from Animal Feeding Operations (AFOs), also known as factory farms. But due to regular inclusion of appropriations riders, EPA is not able to utilize funds to promulgate or implement any regulation requiring the issuance of permits under Title V of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7661 et seq.) for carbon dioxide, nitrous oxide, water vapor, or methane emissions resulting from biological processes associated with livestock production. EPA has also repeatedly been prohibited from implementing its greenhouse gas reporting rule for livestock operations and manure management systems.

The EPA identifies livestock as responsible for 25% of overall agricultural greenhouse gas emissions, while manure management operations contribute 12% of overall agricultural emissions, but riders promoted by agribusiness are tying EPA's hands from addressing this important sector. The climate crisis is too urgent to allow factory farms to escape regulatory oversight, regulation, and tracking of greenhouse gas emissions.

In addition to fueling the climate crisis, factory farms release dangerous toxins into the air we breathe and the water we drink. These environmental health impacts disproportionately affect low income and communities of color. Furthermore, factory farming also drains rural economies of resources while economically squeezing farmers' consumer share of the dollar.

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We can no longer allow the dangerous and destructive factory farming industry to pollute our air with planet-warming greenhouse gases, entirely unchecked by the EPA. As leaders of the Appropriations Committees, please do all within your power to ensure EPA has the resources to hold this industry accountable for its emissions.

Signed,

**Leading Organizations:**

Campaign for Family Farms and the Environment  
Food & Water Watch  
Friends of the Earth  
Indigenous Environmental Network  
Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy  
National Family Farm Coalition

**National Organizations:**

American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA)  
Animal Legal Defense Fund  
Campaign for Family Farms and the Environment  
Center for Biological Diversity  
DC Greens  
Earthjustice  
Environment America  
Environmental Working Group  
Factory Farming Awareness Coalition  
Fair World Project  
Family Farm Defenders  
Farm Forward  
Food & Water Watch  
Food Animal Concerns Trust  
Friends of the Earth  
Grassroots Global Justice Alliance  
Gulf Coast Center for Law & Policy  
Hispanic Access Foundation  
Humane Society International  
Humane Society Legislative Fund  
Humane Society of the United States  
Humane Society Veterinary Medical Association  
Indigenous Environmental Network  
Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy  
International Marine Mammal Project of Earth Island Institute  
Kitchen Sync Strategies  
National Family Farm Coalition  
National Farm Worker Ministry  
Organic Farming Research Foundation  
Our Climate  
Pesticide Action Network  
Public Justice  
Real Food Media  
Sierra Club

Socially Responsible Agriculture Project  
Stand.earth  
Youth Climate Save  
Zero Hour

**State and Local Organizations:**

350 Eugene  
350 Hawaii  
350 Seattle  
350 Triangle  
Acterra: Action for a Healthy Planet  
Advancing Collective Equity  
All together Now PA  
Animals Are Sentient Beings, Inc.  
Applecroft  
Assateague Coastal Trust  
Balanced  
Buffalo River Watershed Alliance  
CISA`  
Clean Water for North Carolina  
Climate Land Leaders  
Climate Reality Project, Silicon Valley  
Compassion in World Farming  
Dakota Rural Action  
Des Moines County Farmers and Neighbors for Optimal Health  
Earth Action, Inc.  
Encompass  
Extinction Rebellion San Francisco Bay Area  
Farmworker Association of Florida  
Friends For Environmental Justice  
Friends of Family Farmers  
Green State Solutions  
Grow For Food  
Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action (HAPA)  
Health Care Without Harm  
Hudson Varick Resources  
Iowa Citizens for Community Improvement  
Jefferson County Farmers & Neighbors, Inc.  
JSA Sustainable Wealth Management  
Lean and Green Kids  
Linn County Farmers and Neighbors  
Locust Point Community Garden  
Long Beach Alliance for Clean Energy  
March of Silence NYC  
Milwaukee Riverkeeper  
Missouri Coalition for the Environment  
MountainTrue  
Northeast Organic Farming Association of New York (NOFA-NY)  
NYCLASS (New Yorkers for Clean, Livable, and Safe Streets)  
Planetary CARE

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Plant Powered Metro New York  
Poweshiek CARES  
PSR Arizona  
Regenerative Rising  
Resilience Project  
Resource Renewal Institute  
River Guardian Foundation  
Santa Cruz Climate Action Network  
Sonoma Hot Sauce  
STEAM URBAN  
Terra Advocati  
TIAA-Divest! from climate destruction  
Tufts University  
Utah Physicians for a Healthy Environment  
Virginia Association for Biological Farming  
Wall of Women  
Western Watersheds Project