

# Groups petition Oregon to regulate dairy emissions

BY GEORGE PAVLEN  
Capital Press

A coalition of 22 environmental, public health and animal welfare groups is petitioning Oregon regulators to adopt new rules targeting air pollution from large-scale dairies.

The petition, filed Aug. 17 with the state Environmental Quality Commission, seeks to create a dairy air emissions program that would apply to farms with 700 or more mature cows, which the federal Environmental Protection Agency defines as a “large” operation.

Under the program, proposed and existing dairies would be required to obtain an air quality permit and curb harmful emissions. They include ammonia, methane, hydrogen sulfide and particulate matter, among others.

Opponents argue the proposal is misleading, and would include family farms that can ill afford more costly regulations.

Emily Miller, staff attorney for Food and Water Watch, estimated the proposal would apply to 91 dairies in Oregon. That is 39% of all Grade A dairies and have 84% of all cows.

“For too long, the state has sat idly by while Oregon mega-dairies have been spewing toxic pollution into the air,



Threemile Canyon Farms/Contributed Photo

**Threemile Canyon Farms is Oregon's largest dairy, with 70,000 cows about 15 miles west of Boardman along the Columbia River. A coalition of 22 environmental, public health and animal welfare groups is petitioning Oregon regulators to adopt new rules targeting air pollution from large-scale dairies.**

wreaking havoc on our natural resources, climate and communities,” said Miller, the petition’s lead author. “This head-in-the-sand approach must change.”

The commission has 90 days to respond.

Confined animal feeding operations such as dairies are jointly regulated by the state’s Department of Agriculture and Department of Environmental Quality.

However, the agencies are only responsible for ensuring the manure handled by CAFOs

does not contaminate surface or ground water.

As early as 2008, a state-convened Dairy Air Quality Task Force recommended a dairy air emissions program in its report to ODA. Fourteen years later, Miller said, almost nothing has been done.

“Meanwhile, these operations keep getting bigger and bigger, and keep emitting more pollution into Oregon’s atmosphere,” she said. “This program is long overdue.”

Food and Water Watch’s analysis of state and federal data shows dairies with more than 2,500 cows in Oregon collectively release more than 17 million kilograms of methane every year, equivalent to the emissions from 318,000 cars.

Miller said not only are methane emissions exacerbating climate change, but pollutants can also cause health problems for employees and nearby communities. She said more than one-third of all dairy cows in the

state are in Umatilla and Morrow counties.

The largest dairy, at Threemile Canyon Farms, has 70,000 cows about 15 miles west of Boardman along the Columbia River.

Mary Anne Cooper, vice president of public policy for the Oregon Farm Bureau, said the petition is a new tactic from groups that have long opposed large dairies.

In 2017, legislation was introduced in the state Senate direct-

ing the EQC to establish a dairy air emissions program.

That bill, SB 197, died in committee.

Cooper said dairies have already voluntarily adopted best management practices to minimize air emissions, such as a methane digester built at Threemile Canyon Farms, which is used to generate electricity and renewable natural gas.

The petition, Cooper said, claims to address so-called “mega-dairies,” yet the threshold of 700 or more cows is “very much family-scale operations in this state.”

“You cannot support a family on a couple hundred milk cows,” she said. “Their costs already exceed what they’re getting on the market for their product.”

Between added costs due to inflation and the passage of a state law mandating farmworkers be paid overtime, Cooper said it has already been a difficult year for producers.

“This (air emissions program) will have a real impact on people and on families,” she said. “We have an industry with such tight margins. They’re already trying to figure out how to accommodate a number of new regulatory burdens this year alone.”

## EASTERN OREGON marketplace

Place classified ads online at [www.easternoregonmarketplace.com](http://www.easternoregonmarketplace.com) or call 1-800-962-2819 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

After hours, leave a voicemail and we'll confirm your ad the next business day. Email us at [classifieds@eastoregonian.com](mailto:classifieds@eastoregonian.com)

Deadline is 3 p.m. the day before publication



211 S.E. Byers Ave. 333 E. Main St.  
Pendleton, OR 97801 Hermiston, OR 97838

See [www.easternoregonmarketplace.com](http://www.easternoregonmarketplace.com) for classified ads from all over Eastern Oregon

EAST OREGONIAN • HERMISTON HERALD • BLUE MOUNTAIN EAGLE • WALLOWA COUNTY CHIEFTAIN

### 103 Announcements

#### MULTIPLE ESTATE SALES!

Saturday, Aug. 27th, 11am  
Craig Rd, Hermiston, OR

Sunday, Aug. 28th, 10am  
318 Columbia Ave NW  
Boardman, OR

Lots of must see items. Heavy equipment, western memorabilia, and yard art. Check for pictures at [www.facebook.com/FordsAuction](http://www.facebook.com/FordsAuction). Contact us for estate sales and consignments. Licensed and bonded in Washington. 541-561-5798 Ford or 541-314-3153 Colby

### 105 Lost & Found

#### LOST

Silver ring that has an eagle with a turquoise stone in the middle of it. Also a Sisco kid mask, white with red lettering. Please call (541)561-5223. Hermiston area.

### 401 Garage/Yard Sales

Huge yard sale: Fri & Sat, 7am-4pm. Toys, 16' pool, bouncy house, golf miscellaneous, coolers, play table with trundle, loft twin bed, dresser & desk, wagon, tons of miscellaneous. 2104 SW Perkins Ave, Pendleton, OR.

Yard Sale: Fri, Sat & Sun. August 26th, 27th & 28th. Furniture, household miscellaneous, 1915 Singer sewing machine, stamp collection, saddles, side saddle. Friday start at 10am-7pm. 211 E Main, Pilot Rock, OR. Up on the hill, by the high school.

### About Public Notices

Public notices inform citizens about the activities of government bodies — such as budgets and public hearings, upcoming meetings and elections — so that citizens can make their opinions known before an action is taken or a rule or law is made. They also include information about foreclosures, unclaimed and forfeited property, estate claims and probate notices, summons, and calls for bids.

It's so easy to get your Classified ad! Just call 800-962-2819



GOLF GAME gone to pot? Sell those old clubs with a classified ad.

### 401 Garage/Yard Sales

#### CHARITY GARAGE SALE: Thurs-Sat., August 25-27th 8am-5pm

Guy stuff: Sanders, saws, tools, drills & yard tools. Fishing poles, camping gear, 5 gallon glass jars, tow chains. Girl stuff: Clothes for all ages, some vintage shoes, bedding, crafts, books & much more. 1319 SW Suzanne Ct, Hermiston, OR.

### AUCTION NOTICE

#### Musical Instrument Surplus.

#### ONLINE ONLY AUCTION

#### NO RESERVERS.

8/6/2022 through 8/27/2022

Lots begin to close at 10:00am Saturday the 27th.

Bidding starts at 10a.m SHARP.

Location: 80571 Hwy 395 North Hermiston Oregon 97838

Preview is set for Friday 8/26 9:00am to 5:00pm and Saturday until sale is complete.

We are offering up over 60+ Musical instruments.

Auctioneer: Paul Kramer. For questions or face time inspection call 541-571-5771 For pictures and listing, go to <http://columbiariverauction.hibid.com> Columbia River Auction, LLC. 80571 Hwy 395, Hermiston, OR.

### 502 Real Estate

#### 541-377-6855

**A PHONE CALL AWAY!** Help to find the home for you with access to all possible homes on your list. Please call with your questions for the answers to help you into your new home.

TURN HERE REALTY & TRAVEL 305 SW Court Ave.

FOR QUICK CASH Use a classified ad to sell items you no longer use.



You can find your dream home

Check out our Real Estate Listings in the Classifieds

EAST OREGONIAN

### 504 Homes for Sale

\$264,000

Spacious home w/open floor plan. Perched on the top of a hill it has territorial views. Huge back deck, large shed. Jed 541-969-2887c. #22623142

Coldwell Banker Farley Company 541-276-0021

\$309,900 PRICE REDUCED!

Huge \$20k price reduction! Move-in ready. 3bed, 3bath, w/family room. Central HVAC. Double garage. Large fenced backyard, close to park. Vicki 541-969-9441c. #22696529

Coldwell Banker Farley Company 541-276-0021

\$243,000

Well-kept townhome! Main level consists of a large kitchen, dining space, living space, storage. Upstairs 2bedrooms, primary suite w/full bath. Jason 760-409-6842 #22379502

Coldwell Banker Farley Company 541-276-0021

\$519,000

6acres and a totally remodeled 3bed, 2bath home. New: flooring, paint, trim, baths, granite, Pella windows, SS appliances, new mini-split HVAC system. Kevin 541-969-8243c. #22192699

Coldwell Banker Farley Company 541-276-0021

\$1,200,000

29 acres(m/l) w/3,571 sf(m/l) 4bedroom, 3bath custom log home. Complete remodel/ addition. D-log interior. 30'x35' 3car garage with loft/upstairs, workbench, shop, storage shed. Jerry 541-969-6378c. #22453137

Coldwell Banker Farley Company 541-276-0021



### About Public Notices

Public notices inform citizens about the activities of government bodies — such as budgets and public hearings, upcoming meetings and elections — so that citizens can make their opinions known before an action is taken or a rule or law is made. They also include information about foreclosures, unclaimed and forfeited property, estate claims and probate notices, summons, and calls for bids.

### 504 Homes for Sale

Farm with air strip for sale on 60+ acres in the Blue Mountains. Beautiful home with breath-taking views. \$2,700,000. Call for details. Weston, OR (928) 287-2062

#### Choices with homes to suit you...

Please call or text 541-377-6855.

I can help you with your home search and questions. Reliable guidance and resource to facilitate your purchase or home sale.

#### TURN HERE REALTY & TRAVEL

305 SW Court Ave., Pendleton

\$495,000

#### PRICE REDUCED

30 minutes from town, updated Country home on 8.85acres. 373sf(m/l) covered deck. 36x36 shop w/workbench. Bunk house, 2sheds, chicken coop, dog kennel. Marsha 541-377-5152c. #22485363

Coldwell Banker Farley Company 541-276-0021

\$185,000

#### PILOT ROCK

Overlooking Birch Creek, 3bedroom, 2bath home w/open floor plan. 583sf(m/l) basement. Tons of storage. Oversized 2car garage. Being sold "as-is", cash sale. Cari 541-377-5058c. #2230126733

Coldwell Banker Farley Company 541-276-0021

### 504 Homes for Sale

What is on your WISHLIST? Call Kerry at 541-377-6855 to find your forever home with

TURN HERE REALTY & TRAVEL 305 SW Court Ave., Pendleton email: [kjcbaird@gmail.com](mailto:kjcbaird@gmail.com)

### 615 Storage Space

2 Storage Units Available 13x28 Call Randy 541-377-4675

### 651 Help Wanted



JM Eagle of Umatilla, Or. The world's largest plastic pipe company is seeking a

CLASS A CDL TRUCK DRIVER for our fast paced shipping department. Full time hours will vary daily Monday-Friday. Must have a current medical card and clean driving record.

Hourly wage DOE, excellent benefits to start immediately after hire, paid holidays. \$500 signing bonus based on NO ABSENCES, NO TARDINESS and NO DISCIPLINARY ACTION. New hires will receive \$200 after 60 working days and \$300 at the end of 6 months.

Apply in person at 31240 Roxbury Rd, Umatilla, OR 97882 or send resume to: [branditurner@jmeagle.com](mailto:branditurner@jmeagle.com)

Classified Ads work hard for you!

### 651 Help Wanted



Full-Time CDL Truck Driver wanted. Must have valid Medical Card. Pre-Employment testing required. Call 541-963-3409 for more information or email us at [hermrock@outlook.com](mailto:hermrock@outlook.com).



JM Eagle of Umatilla, Or. The world's largest plastic pipe company is seeking a PRODUCTION LINE OPERATOR

No experience necessary, employer is willing to train. Requirements:

- 18 years old
- Pass drug screen and background check
- Work schedule may include weekdays, weekends and holidays.

Pay is \$19 per hour DOE. Hours are 7am-7pm or 7pm-7am. Great benefit package, medical, 401K and retirement. Benefits start immediately after hire. \$500 signing bonus based on NO ABSENCES, NO TARDINESS and NO DISCIPLINARY ACTION. New hires will receive \$200 after 60 working days and \$300 at the end of 6 months. Apply in person at 31240 Roxbury Rd, Umatilla OR. 97882 or send resume to: [branditurner@jmeagle.com](mailto:branditurner@jmeagle.com)



Hermiston Herald Local news matters to your family and friends Refer a friend to the Hermiston Herald Visit [HermistonHerald.com/refer](http://HermistonHerald.com/refer)