

PC#3062

Matthew B. Alschuler, President
Helping Others Maintain Environmental Standards (HOMES)
PO Box 674
Warren, IL 61087

February 3, 2015

Pollution Control Board
John Therriault, Assistant Clerk
James R. Thompson Center
100 W. Randolph Street, Suite 11-500
Chicago, IL 60601

RE: Case Number R2012-023A

Dear Members of the Pollution Control Board,

As the president of a non-profit formed to monitor industrial animal facilities, I am very concerned about the current regulations regarding CAFOs.

The most striking omission is the lack of a reporting program for large CAFOs. These facilities have a proven record of causing environmental damage to air, ground water, and surface waters, and yet the IEPA doesn't even have a comprehensive listing of the location, number of animals, and owners of these facilities.

Without such a list there is no way that IEPA field inspectors can monitor these facilities to make sure they are complying with environmental law. When a spill does occur, and is traced back to an unknown facility, the IEPA doesn't have an emergency contact on file to alert that the facility is discharging.

By working with these CAFOs before accidents occur, the IEPA can not only protect our land and water, but they can also alert CAFO operators to potentially dangerous situations before they result in environmental damage to our state. This helps our residents while protecting the CAFO owners from large fines due to a discharge. This is only possible once the IEPA has a listing of all of the CAFOs operating in the state.

There is simply no reasonable excuse for facilities of this size to fly under the radar and avoid registering with the state. I urge you to require a reporting program for all CAFOs in Illinois.

Thank you,

Matthew Alschuler

Digitally signed by Matthew Alschuler
DN: cn=Matthew Alschuler, o=Cotton Expressions, Ltd,
ou, email=matthewa@cottonexpressions.com, c=US
Date: 2015.02.04 00:05:21 -05'00'

Matthew B. Alschuler, President
HOMES

Therriault, John

From: Matthew Alschuler <matthew@alschuler.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 11:07 PM
To: Therriault, John
Subject: Commentary on Case Number R2012-023A
Attachments: Case Number R2012-023A.pdf

Attached please find citizen comments on Case Number R2012-023A.

Thank you,

Matthew Alschuler, President
HOMES