

LAWSUIT FILED AGAINST IOWA DNR SAYS BLATANT MISCALCULATIONS PUT IOWANS AT RISK

Sierra Club's Iowa Chapter files suit - accuses Iowa DNR officials of using bad information to approve Supreme Beef CAFO near Monona.

CLAYTON COUNTY, Iowa – A feedlot set to house 11,600 head of cattle approved by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) continues to cause controversy.

The [Committee to Save Bloody Run](#) says the proposed Supreme Beef LLC concentrated animal feeding operation (CAFO) in Clayton County used a skewed nutrient management plan (NMP) riddled with incorrect information and miscalculations. A lawsuit filed this morning details point after point of wrong information presented to and considered by the Iowa DNR for approval.

Because the Iowa DNR has refused to reconsider its their decision – even after exposure of the faulty data used by Supreme Beef – the Iowa Chapter of the Sierra Club has taken legal action.

*“In spite of numerous comments from over 100 people and groups, the DNR blatantly violated its own rules and Iowa law when approving the nutrient management plan,” said **Wally Taylor, legal counsel for Sierra Club of Iowa.** “The DNR failed to protect Iowa’s water. That’s their job. We need to set a strong precedent that we expect the DNR to do its job.”*

Among the many arguments raised by the lawsuit, the filing details obvious miscalculations. Inappropriate manure storage, improper calculation of the amount of nitrogen and phosphorus in manure the 11,600 cattle will produce, and the risk of spreading manure on Highly Erodible Land (HEL) pose a dangerous risk to nearby Outstanding Iowa Water designee Bloody Run Creek and other streams in the area.

*“Bloody Run Creek is a designated Outstanding Iowa Water. Beyond that, we have laws about manure lagoons sited in karst terrain that should have prevented this from happening,” explains **Steve Veysey, Committee to Save Bloody Run organizer.** “DNR approved it anyway. I, for one, would like to know why.”*

The Committee to Save Bloody Run has embarked on a comprehensive water testing initiative for streams in the area. The group intends to establish baseline readings to quickly identify when pollution occurs in the future.

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About the Committee to Save Bloody Run

The Save Bloody Run Committee was formed to gain support in the Battle for Bloody Run. The organization intends to raise funds for litigation, water testing, and advocacy. The group also works to raise awareness to generate a strong and persistent groundswell that politicians will not be able to ignore. Clean water belongs to all of us. They believe if we cannot protect the best we have, then nothing can be protected. To learn more, visit savebloodyrun.org

About Sierra Club of Iowa

The Iowa Chapter of the Sierra Club is the largest environmental non-profit in Iowa that endorses candidates, lobbies at the Capitol and empowers volunteers to engage with elected officials on key issues impacting our environment. www.sierraclub.org/iowa

Thank you,

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