

June 8, 2007

Norman Solze
Assistant Sandusky County Prosecutor
Sandusky County Courthouse
100 N. Park Avenue
Fremont, OH 43420

In re: Liskai Conflict Issue - Mega Dairy

Dear Mr. Solze:

SC-CPR requests that you reconsider the conflict of interest issue as to Commissioner Daniel Liskai and also consider the conflict of interest issue as to Woodville Township Trustee Nathaniel Liskai. If we understand your position correctly, because the Liskais have no decision making authority over the permits, you can see no conflict of interest. While we understand that they have no decision making authority as to the permits, county commissioners and township trustees do play a role in the permitting process, if they chose to assert it. Choosing not to assert the few rights given to local officials in the CAFO process is evidence that a conflict of interest exists.

Enclosed you will find a copy of a letter recently received from ODA Director Boggs. If you review the 4th and 5th paragraphs on page one of the Boggs letter, I believe you will see that Mr. Boggs asserts that county commissioners and township trustees do have some authority when it comes to the CAFOs.

Please consider the following:

1. SC-CPR requested that the County Commissioners and the Township Trustees assert their rights under O.R.C. Section 901:10-1-02(A)(7) and request a consultation to address the impact to the infrastructure. This right is specifically given to County Commissioners and Township Trustees and both choose not to exercise it, and defer to the County Engineer only as to the road damage issue. Nothing in this provision states that the County Engineer must approve this right before exercising the right. Further, there are infrastructure issues beyond road damage that should be addressed. This is a plain and simple right that the Sandusky County Commissioners and Woodville Township Trustees have but choose not to exercise.
2. The provisions of O.R.C. Section 903.25 set forth specific areas where CAFOs cannot be regulated. Specifically not included therein are air and water quality standards. Again, the County Commissioners and Township Trustees both choose not to exercise the rights they have and defer this issue to the Health Department.
3. Mr. Boggs at paragraph 4 of his letter states "Local county and township officials largely determine development within their legislative boundaries." In Sandusky County when it comes to the CAFO issue, the county and township officials state

that they have no control over the permits and do absolutely nothing. While they may not have a direct role as to the permits, even Mr. Boggs confirms that they do play a role in the CAFO process.

4. Mr. Boggs at paragraph 5 of his letter sets forth several agreements that may be entered into with the dairies and states that they must be entered into prior to construction of the farm facility. Such agreements can result in funding of road improvements or money for schools. Once again, this is not a direct impact on the permits, but is a role in the CAFO process that our Commissioners and Township Trustees have chosen to avoid.
5. The Liskai family LLC sold land to the mega-dairy for approximately \$6100 per acre. The sale of this land to the dairy certainly resulted in financial gain to the Liskai family LLC. I can't believe that even the Liskais would assert that this is the typical per acre price for farmland in Sandusky County. By way of example, the day after selling the farm land to the dairy at \$6100 per acre, the Liskai family LLC purchased farmland at \$2350 per acre. Given that the Liskai family LLC, of which Dan and Nate are members, has experienced financial benefits by selling land to the mega-dairy, how can either of them ever look objectively at the health, environmental, quality of life and economic concerns of the citizens of Sandusky County?

SC-CPR believes that looking only at the permitting authority when addressing the conflict issue is a bit narrow in accessing the conflict issue. The County Commissioners and Township Trustees do play a role in the CAFO process. They are just choosing not to exercise that role. There is a significant difference between having some authority in the CAFO process and choosing not to exercise it, and having no authority at all. Even the ODA Director states the County Commissioners and Township Trustees have some role in the CAFO process. This local level role must be exercised and it must be done so without the influence of Commissioner Liskai and Trustee Liskai. Please reconsider your position on the conflict of interest as to Commissioner Liskai and Township Trustee Liskai.

Sincerely,



Sharon Aldrich, Secretary

Sandusky County Citizens Protecting Our Resources, LLC

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Enc.