

# Environmentalists Want Moratorium On Hog Farms

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engaged in manufacturing, just like General Motors makes cars, somebody made this," Brubaker said.

"And it's interesting to me that on one hand we would come down on General Motors in a minute if they were causing the kind of pollution that animal factories cause, and yet, somehow, we say animal factories are agriculture so we can ignore them.

"And I would just argue that animal factories are not agriculture," he said.

"I think if you look at the track

record of factory farms, I think you're going to find that voluntary compliance isn't going to do it. "If voluntary compliance worked, we wouldn't be in the position we're in now."

Brubaker also asked that USDA and EPA consider a moratorium on issuing NPDES permits, which could affect new construction of manure storage facilities and farms considered to be concentrated animal feeding operations by EPA.

"Let's not allow any new facilities until we get ahold of the situation that we're in already," he said.

Also speaking out against farms

were Bedford County residents Seri and Craig Kern of Everett, representing the Sidling Hill Creek Watershed Association and the Sierra Club.

They reiterated the call for a moratorium on permits, and argued that the AFO proposal weakens the EPA's CAFO regulations.

Sandy Smith of Broge commented that she would like to see a moratorium on the NPDES permits, and the inclusion in the AFO strategy a requirement that local citizens be notified when an application for an NPDES permit is submitted.

In addition, she requested that the regulations require an NPDES permit for any poultry operation with 40,000 or more birds.

Frederica Barkman of Clearville issued similar comments to those of Novak.

Lamont Garber, a long-time representative of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, who also was involved in the construct of the state's Nutrient Management Act, and was involved in its implementing regulations, testified that the Draft Joint Strategy isn't strong enough and that it should ensure that phosphorus should be considered an important nutrient of concern.

He also called for the Strategy to insist that state water quality agencies be in control of inspecting farms under permit.

"The strategy should clearly require state water quality agencies to establish fair, consistent and universal inspection programs for all large CAFOs, both new and existing.

"These programs would not be designed to punish operators, but to encourage compliance and flag management problems before they become serious environmental problems.

"The responsibility for inspections and compliance assistance for AFOS should be the water (Turn to Page A27)



A new historical document "Historical Excerpts of Pennsylvania Granges," has been assembled, edited and published by the Pennsylvania State Grange. Copies were presented at Penn State University last week to various state libraries. At the presentation are from left, Dr James Diamond and Dr. Donald Evans, past Pennsylvania Grange lecturer; Dr. Graham Spanler, president, Penn State University; Gordon Hiller, past Pennsylvania Grange master; Samuel Hayes Jr., secretary, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture; and Paul Tufano, Penn State University trustee representing Gov. Tom Ridge. Copies cost \$14 and may be obtained from the Pennsylvania State Grange office, 1604 N. Second St., Harrisburg, PA 17102.

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