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**Kathy Cooper**

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**From:** ecomment@pa.gov  
**Sent:** Friday, April 26, 2019 3:58 PM  
**To:** Environment-Committee@pasenate.com; IRRRC; eregop@pahousegop.com; environmentalcommittee@pahouse.net; regcomments@pa.gov; ntroutman@pasen.gov  
**Cc:** c-jflanaga@pa.gov  
**Subject:** Comment received - Proposed Rulemaking: WQM and NPDES Permit Application Fees and Annual Fees (#7-533)(correction to Table in § 91.22(a) published April 6, 2019; 49 Pa.B. 1665)



**Re: eComment System**

**The Department of Environmental Protection has received the following comments on Proposed Rulemaking: WQM and NPDES Permit Application Fees and Annual Fees (#7-533)(correction to Table in § 91.22(a) published April 6, 2019; 49 Pa.B. 1665).**

**Commenter Information:**

John Hess  
(jljhess@gmail.com)  
511 Tall Oak rd.  
Gettysburg, PA 17325 US



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**Comments entered:**

To whomever it may concern,

I am writing in concern t your doubling of permit fees for manure pits and CAFO's. I see no real purpose in most of these permits other than the need to make a job in government for someone. Getting these permitts is a cost of farming in Pa or US. I have no way of doubling what I recieve for my products that I sell. If you choose to double or even allow DEP to increase there prices without comment period, we will find a way to pay it most likely. I am of the opinion that if the Pa. or US goverment feels they need to infringe on my rights as a citizen, I can choose to not engage in the activity that they are infringing on. Having me pay for that infrigment or raising the cost is more taxation. When you go to the grocery store there will be no farmers there telling you that DEP doubled the taxes therefore we will need to increase the prices. If DEP can't survive on the money they are allocated from tax dollars go to the legistlators a lobby for more money. I don't believe lobbying me for a service that I am forced to purchase with no real benefit to me is the right avenue. If the goverment wants to keep track of manure pits or CAFO operations the goverment should pay for it, not me. All that these permitts really do is make a uneducated public believe that we are doing something shady because we are required to have a permitt. Maybe this is the straw that will break the camels back, probably not, but this is no time in agrcultural economy for any entity to raise prices, let alone double them. If the public wants my operation recorded in a file somewhere in a goverment building then let the public can pay for it, maybe the public will eventually qeustion the need for this imformation. Having a regulation on how something must be built or operated may make sense, paying for a yearly

permitted after it is built, is simply a different avenue for tax dollars. the government has one avenue to increase taxes, DEP does not have that authority.

Thank you,  
John Hess

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No attachments were included as part of this comment.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,  
Jessica Shirley

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