

# How would a CAFO next door affect Rome?

[Jan 16 2016 town meeting notice.docx](#)



# Introductions

- Mr. Dan Baumann
  - Director WI Department of Natural Resources
- Dr. George Kraft
  - Professor Water Resources UW Stevens Point
- Scott Krug
  - WI State Assembly District 72
- Other speakers: Bob Benkowski, Dan Gohmann, Rick Antin, Rick Georgeson, Steve Raap
- What will be covered today [Jan 16 2016 town meeting agenda short form.docx](#)

# What is a CAFO?

- Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation
  - Cattle, pigs, turkeys, chickens
  - Animals typically confined to enclosed area
- Large dairy CAFO = 700 or more mature cows
- Herd size related to manure spread area
- Over 200 CAFOs in WI – primarily dairy

# What is being proposed next door?

- 7,800 acres/ 4660 clear cut/6,460 in crops
  - see Golden Sands EIR - DNR hi cap well map
- 5,300 dairy cows, heifers and calves
- 31 High Capacity wells/1,860,000 gal per hour
  - See proposed High Cap Well map -Tyler
    - Nearly 1500 private drinking water wells within 3 mile cone of depression
- 55 million gallons of manure spread on 6,400 acres of cropland annually– aerially sprayed?

# Wastewater & Nutrient Mgmt Plans

- Wisconsin Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (WPDES)
  - Water discharge control
  - EPA classifies CAFO as point source pollution
- Nutrient Management Plan
  - Plan for spreading 55 million gallons manure over 6,460 crop acres
  - Contracts with other farms

# Rome Demographics and Economics

see Rome socio-economic letter

- 7,100 taxed properties - \$600 mm valuation
- 5,400 properties around 3 lakes
- Wisconsin Trapshooters home facility
- TriNorse ski jump
- Arrowhead courses
- Dyracuse Park
- New Sand Valley Golf Resort

The science concerning our soil,  
groundwater and surface water

# Current state of Rome's lakes

- Arrowhead, Camelot & Sherwood impoundment lakes fed primarily by 14 Mile Creek
  - Spring Branch Creek minor influence through springs and intermittent upstream flow
- Petenwell flowage primarily fed by Wisconsin river with some influence from 14 Mile
- 3 of 4 already on DNR impaired list
  - Phosphorous in Arrowhead & Sherwood, Phosphorous PCBs, Dioxin & Mercury in Petenwell



# Current state of Rome's lakes - cont.

- TriLakes involvement
  - Phosphorous testing in lakes since 2007
  - Septic system monitoring since 2006
- Rome Water & TriLakes installing monitoring wells at Adams/Wood county line
- CAFO concern – decreasing lake levels/cone of depression, water quality/nitrates & phosphorous

# DNR Terminology

- **Environmental Impact Report (EIR)**
  - CAFO developer's document developed by their experts describing the environmental effects of the project from their perspective.
- **Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)**
  - The DNR's document using the above mentioned EIR as a base, but with DNR analysis, as well as public input.

# DNR EIR/EIS/public hearing/permitting

To Date:

- June 2012 - CAFO permit application by Golden Sands
- August - 2012 Environmental Impact Statement scoping and public issue identification meeting  
(47 pounds of data and scientific reports sent by Saratoga citizens)
- March 2014 - Environmental Impact Report received from Golden Sands
- June 2014 to present EIR review and collection of data

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- 3/1/2016 draft Environmental Impact Statement to be released by DNR
  - Public review period next 45 days (at least)
    - Public hearing at about day 30 – possibly PAC in Rapids
    - Public input in person, mail and e-mail
  - DNR creates final EIS including public comments and revisions  
(presumed to be at end of 45 day public review)
    - Final EIS signed and final determinations made on permits

# DNR terms -WI Admin code NR150

## Environmental Impact Report

- Environmental Impact Report (EIR). Pursuant to s. [23.11 \(5\)](#), Stats., the department may require an applicant for certain proposed projects to submit an EIR. The department may request any applicant to submit an EIR. **The purpose of an EIR is to help the department develop the EIS** by having the applicant provide a detailed, **comprehensive description of the proposed project, reasonable alternatives** to the proposed project, the **present environmental conditions** in the area potentially affected by the proposed project, and **anticipated environmental effects** of the proposed project and alternatives. Predictive models, bioassays, and other analysis that can be subject to reasonable scientific verification may be required. The instructions to the applicant may also require that certain laboratory tests be performed by a laboratory certified, registered, or approved under ch. [NR 149](#).

# DNR terms -WI Admin code NR150

## Environmental Impact Statement

- ***Purpose.* is to inform decision-makers and the public of the anticipated effects on the quality of the human environment and alternatives**
- **It does not compel a particular decision by the agency or prevent the agency from concluding that other values outweigh the environmental consequences.**
- **(c) *Intent.* consider the proposed action or project, alternatives and anticipated environmental effects in a dispassionate manner, and may not advocate a particular position about a proposed action or project**
- **EIS is an informational document meant to provide decision-makers the necessary information, and for the public to have an opportunity to comment;**
- **it is not a decision document.**

# Permitting

- **33 High Cap wells (31 irrigation, 2 production)**
  - Evaluate impacts to Tenmile and Sevenmile Creeks, along with impacts to private wells and other water resources in the area
  - DNR would either deny the well application or impose conditions on the construction and operation of the well to prevent such impacts.
- **WPDES (Wisconsin Pollutant Discharge Elimination System)**
  - 55 million gallons of liquid manure/process wastewater and 25 tons of solid manure annually on about 6,000 acres.
  - DNR will create a draft WPDES permit that it will public notice for at least 30 days. It is likely the DNR will also hold a public informational hearing on the WPDES permit.

# Legislative action

- Current legislative direction
- Legislative bills to be aware of
- Bills that support our area
- Power of citizen's voice
  - Public hearings
  - Other ways to be heard

# How does this concern Rome?

- Water quality experience with other CAFOs
  - Central Sands Dairy CAFO – Armenia, WI
    - See Backer of Saratoga CAFO tied to tainted wells
  - Kewaunee County
    - See Northern Kewaunee County wells are polluted
  - Richfield Dairy – Coloma
    - See Judge rules against DNR on high
    - See Friends of the Central Sands - we have a victory
  - Rome is directly next door
    - See CAFO map showing Rome & saratoga features
- Water quantity – over 3,000 high capacity wells in Central Sands area
  - See over 3,000 hi caps in central sands - map



# Air Quality Effects

- Particulate drift from aerial manure spraying
  - DNR best practice workgroup results delayed
    - Balance efficiency VS public health concerns
    - Many studies – few acceptable results
  - Adams County ordinance limits practice
- Odors detected from Central Sands in Armenia
- Nekoosa 11 miles away
- Rome 6 miles across Petenwell

# Manure spraying through pivot at Central Sands CAFO in Armenia



# CAFO Impact on property values

Univ Iowa, Univ Missouri Extension, Univ Colorado data

- May actually increase local agricultural land value
- In Iowa study, rural home values near pork CAFOs:
  - 2 miles = 17% drop
  - 2 ½ miles = 15% drop
  - 3 miles = 6% drop
- Saratoga residential values dropped already
  - Frink family home on 10 Mile Creek
    - Bought in 2007 \$298,000 invested
    - For sale over past 3 summers with just one offer:
    - Sold for \$223,500 - a loss of 25% - just on the threat of a CAFO
  - Janik's sold 27.5% under 2010 appraisal - Fruendl's 31.5%

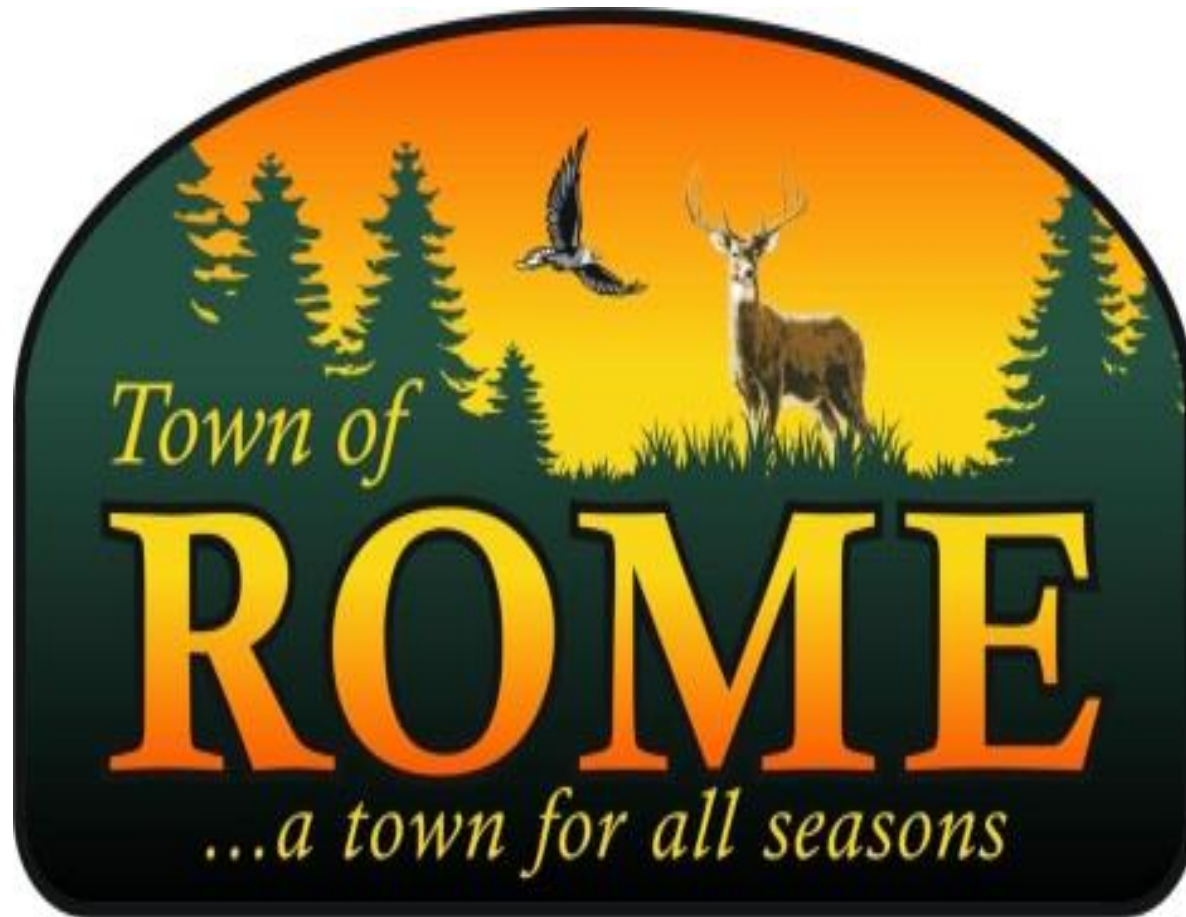
# Population Density

- Well over 2,000 residences within 3 miles
  - Sister farm in Armenia – a few dozen
    - See proposed high cap well map - Tyler
- An existing residential/recreational area
- Major contributor to Adams County #4 tourism rank
- Wrong place for a 5,300 cow CAFO



# Rome presentation

see town of Rome Bob Benkowski



# The PACRS Story – how citizens rose up to protect their lakes

see PACRS Rick G 16th





# Final Comments

- The deck stacked against us
- The court of public opinion
- What each of us can do



# Questions and Answers

