Allow the ODA to Federally Permit Livestock Farms in Ohio

Dear Stephen Johnson, Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency:

I am writing to request that you promptly act on an application filed with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency that would grant authority to the Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) to issue National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits for large livestock farms in Ohio.

In 2000, legislation was passed that authorized ODA to apply for this authority and discussions began more than four years ago between ODA and the U.S. EPA. The ODA submitted its application in January of 2007. Yet, U.S. EPA has not made a decision after promising to do so within six months – now more than a year past due. Therefore, I ask you, Administrator Johnson, to expeditiously conclude the review of the ODA application in an objective manner and approve this environmentally protective program.

Signature: [redacted]
Name: [redacted]
Address: [redacted]
City/State/Zip: Bethel, Ohio 45106
CC: To My U.S. Senators and Member of Congress, Rep. Jean Schmidt