

FACTORY FARMS & FACTORY FARM GAS

FACTORY FARMS house thousands of cows, pigs and turkeys or millions of chickens. Millions of gallons of untreated waste are spread on thousands of acres. People across the political spectrum are resisting as tax subsidizes spur factory farms to build "digesters" that process waste to make factory farm gases. These are not wastewater treatment plants.

MANURE DIGESTERS process manure, urine and material hosed off barn floors, including cleaning fluids.



CO-DIGESTERS process manure, cleaning fluids, industrial food waste, yard waste, sewage sludge, pharmaceutical waste and more.

BOTH PRODUCE **GASES** AND **DIGESTATE**

BIOGAS is used to create heat and electricity. Refined biogas, called biomethane, can be used interchangeably with natural gas. It can be delivered via pipelines or used for fuel in vehicles.



DIGESTATE, a by-product containing highly concentrated nutrients, such as phosphorus and nitrogen, is used as fertilizer.

Phosphorus in digestate can run off fields into rivers and lakes, causing toxic **blue-green algae**.

Nitrogen in digestate turns to nitrate in the soil and can leach into drinking water, risking pregnancies, causing "**blue baby syndrome**" in kids, and increasing risks for thyroid, breast, colorectal, and bladder cancer for adults.

Digesters are made to **maximize methane** production, incentivizing owners to increase herds.

GAS PAINS

Among other things digestate can contain **microplastics** from food packaging, which resist degradation and persist for centuries, accumulating in our soils and thus entering our food supply and ultimately our bodies.

Digestate can contain PFAS, otherwise known as "**forever chemicals**." Once spread onto farm fields, these toxins can enter groundwater, surface water, crops and ultimately our bodies.

Certified organic farmers cannot use digestate as fertilizer because it can contain **heavy metals**, pathogens, and may have unknown human health impacts.

The heat generated in digesters doesn't kill all **pathogens**, like H5N1 bird flu virus and norovirus, or bacteria, like E. coli and Salmonella.

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