

November 7, 2017

The Honorable Greg Walden
Chairman
Committee on Energy & Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Frank Pallone
Ranking Member
Committee on Energy & Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable John Shimkus
Chairman
Committee on Energy & Commerce
Subcommittee on the Environment
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Paul Tonko
Ranking Member
Committee on Energy & Commerce
Subcommittee on the Environment
U.S. House of Representatives

Dear Chairman Walden, Ranking Member Pallone, Chairman Shimkus and Ranking Member Tonko,

My name is Gloria Herrera and a long time residence since 1970 in Delano, CA. Delano is a community of around 55,000 population, most of the community is latino and farm workers.. Our water in Delano has been contaminated with Nitrates for which the City has been working on cleaning up. I know we are surrounded by Dairies and agriculture which I feel contribute to the contamination of our water. The cow manure is used in the agriculture very heavily. We have so many dairies that have been unregulated for many years, with their ponds unlined and polluting our water.

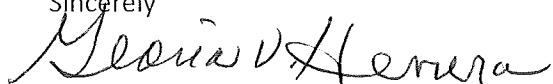
I am afraid we could be risking our health if we drink the water. I do not want to see any of my family members or my community suffer because of these nitrates. I can not see some one get cancer, or deaths to infants because our water is contaminated with nitrates, or find out of health effects of blue baby syndrome.

So our cost is high, we pay the City of Delano \$115 per month if you are a senior or \$135 flat rate and tha is for water I can not drink. Then I have to spend another \$50.00 for bottle water. I am able to this for now, but I am sure there are many families, who are farmworkers, who can not afford to pay for the bottle water, so their only choice is to drink the City water that is contaminated. Our community like many others around here in California have to pay high water rates. We have had 8 consecutive years in total of high water rate increases and I know it is not going to stop there.

Our communities want to resolve these issues of contamination without having to sue our communities. We have not been able to be successful to get the EPA and the State to clean up the nitrates in the water.

I ask you to take into account our situation we find our selves in Delano and if it's with in your powers to help our communities to stop the contamination of nitrates on our water, we will be widely appreciative. Please reject any bills or laws that would continue to put our health in jeopardy in contaminating our waters with nitrates.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gloria Herrera". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely".

Gloria Herrera
51 9th Ave
Delano, CA 9215