

State of Illinois  
Office of Lieutenant Governor Pat Quinn



Declaration

**WHEREAS**, Helping Others Maintain Environmental Standards (HOMES) was founded in May 2008 by a group of citizens concerned about the risk that a proposed mega-dairy would have on their local environment, drinking water source, and the health of their community; and

**WHEREAS**, HOMES advocates for the protection of its groundwater source, which runs through the unique karst topography that is highly susceptible to contamination and interwoven with the scenic Apple River near Nora in Jo Daviess County; and

**WHEREAS**, HOMES challenged the decision by the Illinois Department of Agriculture to approve the construction of a 6,850 head mega-dairy near Apple Canyon State Park in Nora, IL, arguing that the proposed mega-dairy violated the Livestock Management Facilities Act; and

**WHEREAS**, HOMES filed suit and successfully won a temporary injunction to halt the construction of the mega-dairy because of the risk of significant long-term damage to the local groundwater and creating a public nuisance; and

**WHEREAS**, the Illinois Constitution provides each person with a fundamental right to a healthful environment; and

**WHEREAS**, it is the public policy of the State and the duty of each person to provide and maintain a healthful environment for the benefit of this and future generations;

**THEREFORE**, I, Pat Quinn, Lt. Governor of the State of Illinois, hereby honor, salute and commend HOMES for their dedication and protection of the natural resources and wonders of Jo Daviess County and declare them to be a true Environmental Heroes for the State of Illinois.

Dated this October 24, 2008.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pat Quinn".

Pat Quinn  
Lt. Governor