August 18, 2025

To the Office of the Washington State Attorney General,

I am writing to formally request an investigation into the possible misuse of the Washington State Department of Health (DOH) logo in several activist videos produced by the organization We Are Ella.

On June 6, 2025, We Are Ella posted a short video on their social media page, which can be viewed at this web address: https://www.facebook.com/WeAreELLAOrg/videos/1366468461304593. The video centers on the perspective of Teodora Martinez, who is a current candidate for the Port of Sunnyside – District 1 seat. Ms. Martinez claims that her home's well water is contaminated and, without citing evidence, directly accuses local dairies of causing the contamination.

The video does not present any scientific data, citations, or verifiable evidence to support these claims. Instead, it is clearly intended as an activist message designed to generate public outrage and action against this segment of Washington's farming community.

Of particular concern is that the video concludes with the We Are Ella logo, followed immediately by the official Washington State Department of Health logo. This is not the first instance of the organization using the Department of Health's logo in its videos. Other videos produced by We Are Ella have also displayed the Department's logo—for example, on February 28, 2025 (https://www.facebook.com/WeAreELLAOrg/videos/550159338188121) and October 1, 2024 (https://www.facebook.com/WeAreELLAOrg/videos/838740071804018).

This repeated use raises serious questions:

- Did the Department of Health sponsor, contribute to, or otherwise support the production of these videos?
- Did the Department of Health approve the use of its official logo in this context?
- Does the Department of Health endorse the message and claims made in these videos?

If the DOH did not authorize this use of its logo, then its presence may mislead the public into believing that the Department supports the content, message, and accusations contained in the video. If the DOH did authorize it, this raises further concerns about the Department's involvement in a politically charged and factually unsupported campaign against a lawful Washington industry.

I respectfully request that your office investigate this matter to determine whether the Washington State Department of Health's logo was used with permission and whether any state resources or endorsements were provided for the creation or distribution of this video.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Ben Tindall
Executive Director
Save Family Farming