Dear Prince William,

Greetings from the farm!

I don’t suppose you have many of your grandmother’s loyal cows writing to you but as you have already correctly said “the planet is facing an environmental “crisis” and humanity must take action for future generations and with COP26 coming up fast, I feel I have to urgently put hoof to paper.

You have launched a prize to find solutions to the planet’s environmental problems, but I believe the answer is already clear. Without any irony, I call it the ‘cow in the room’.

And it’s this:
**it’s a scientific fact that animal agriculture overall is responsible for a staggering 87% of greenhouse gas emissions. So eating animals is one of the leading causes of climate change. Going vegan can save us all.**

Why is that? Well two main reasons. Firstly, and not to put too fine a point on it, I blow off a lot. I naturally emit methane from both ends and always will.

There are at least a billion cows like me being farmed right now, that’s a lot of methane coming out.

Secondly, meat producers are forcing us to over-graze and destroy plant life, they’re removing vegetation such as trees that would sequester carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.

In fact if grazing lands were restored to forests, they could suck up the CO_{2} from all our fossil fuel emissions. Existing grazing lands could also be used to grow crops for you humans to eat, rather than to be inefficiently turned into meat.

And it isn’t just about us cows, all animal agriculture contributes to climate change and ill-health in humans. For example, animals such as my friends the pigs are being pumped full of hormones and chemicals that make you humans as fat as them.

Encouraging veganism will reduce damage to our climate, and our health, in one simple stroke.

I know the pressures the meat industry can exert and I know their arguments, which are dishonest, corrupt and often crazy. There is a better way to tackle climate change and that is through what we eat.

We need to end the killing and burning machine, reset the planet’s food system,

As you have said, “it’s come to this, our planet is now in crisis, its delicately balanced systems are becoming more and more unstable with every passing year.”

“So, for the sake of future generations, let’s act now.”

On behalf of all animals, I’ll be at COP26, in fact you won’t be able to miss me.

Let’s start a moovement together.

Yours faithfully,

Vega,

Cow and Climate Healer
thecowintheroom.org