

To whom it may concern,

My name is Will Bosch, and I have the pleasure of farming with my family near several Riverview dairy farms. I have also worked as an intern at Riverview farms in the past, so I have first-hand experience of how Riverview conducts business and manages its farms. I am writing to express my strong support for the West River Dairy Expansion.

Environmental concerns are always top of mind for Riverview management and employees, alongside their strong culture of employee safety, animal welfare, and good neighborliness. More than any other dairy or agricultural operation that I have knowledge of, Riverview is well equipped and pro-active in its efforts to mitigate any negative environmental impacts that may result from its operations. For example, all manure, wastewater, and runoff from feed pads is first recycled if able, then collected and redistributed to the surrounding land as nutrient dense fertilizer in a safe and proper manner. This serves to add economic value to surrounding farms like my family's as well as mitigating environmental concerns by reducing the amount of commercial synthetic fertilizer needed to grow bountiful crops.

Beyond environmental concerns, the West River Dairy Expansion represents a significant boost in demand for locally grown crops, adding to the economic impact that agriculture has on our part of the state. Additional dairy production in our area serves to fill a large demand for nutritious whole foods in our state, country, and world. Livestock has always been an important aspect of a sustainable agricultural system, returning nutrients to the soil as well as turning row crops into value added ag products, and every effort should be made to allow the growth of this industry in MN's rural areas.