



# Midwest

*Council on Agriculture*

March 27, 2026

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency  
520 Lafayette Road North  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Re: Public Comment in Support of Riverview LLP Dairy Expansion near Morris, Minnesota

Dear Commissioner Kessler and MPCA Staff,

On behalf of the Midwest Council on Agriculture, we respectfully submit this letter in support of Riverview LLP's proposed dairy expansion at West River Dairy near Morris, Minnesota.

The Midwest Council on Agriculture represents agricultural producers, agribusinesses, ag lenders and commodity groups across the region who are committed to responsible stewardship of natural resources, strong rural economies, and a safe, reliable food supply. From our perspective, modern livestock producers like Riverview exemplify how environmental protection and agricultural growth can and do advance together.

Today's dairy producers operate in a vastly different landscape than previous generations. Investments in advanced nutrient management, manure handling technologies, precision feeding, and data monitoring allow modern dairies to reduce environmental impacts while improving efficiency. Riverview has consistently demonstrated a commitment to operating within rigorous environmental standards and regulatory oversight, reflecting the broader evolution of the livestock sector toward sustainability, transparency, and continuous improvement.

Dairy expansions that undergo thorough environmental review, as this project has, reflect confidence in both science-based regulation and the ability of modern producers to meet or exceed those standards. When well-designed and properly regulated, dairy facilities protect water quality, improve soil health through responsible nutrient recycling, and contribute to long-term environmental outcomes.

Equally important is Riverview's long-standing approach to working closely with local communities and neighboring farmers. Large livestock operations do not exist in isolation; they

are integrated into local economies and landscapes. Riverview's model emphasizes collaboration by creating opportunities for neighboring farmers through manure application partnerships, supporting local service providers, and contributing to employment and economic stability in Stevens County and the surrounding region.

Successful agricultural operations depend on trust, communication, and accountability. Riverview's engagement with neighbors, local leaders, and community stakeholders reflects an understanding that strong relationships are essential to long-term success. These partnerships help ensure that growth in agriculture also means growth in shared prosperity.

Finally, the expansion of responsible dairy operations is critical to meeting growing demand for dairy products—both domestically and globally. Minnesota plays a key role in supplying high-quality, safe, and nutritious dairy foods, and continued investment in the state's dairy sector helps ensure that production remains close to the consumers and communities it serves.

Supporting sustainable growth in dairy production also helps maintain Minnesota's leadership in agriculture, preserves valuable farming infrastructure, and provides opportunities for future generations to remain engaged in agriculture rather than seeing production shift elsewhere.

For these reasons, the Midwest Council on Agriculture supports Riverview LLP's proposed dairy expansion and respectfully encourages the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency to consider the demonstrated environmental safeguards, community engagement, and economic benefits associated with this project.

We appreciate the MPCA's commitment to a robust public process and science-based decision-making and thank you for the opportunity to provide comment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Perry Aasness".

Perry Aasness, President  
Midwest Council on Agriculture