

Daniel Belgum

To: MN Pollution Control Agency Officials,

I believe that Riverview Dairy is already too big. The addition of some 11,000 head of dairy cows to an existing facility with 7,855 dairy cows at the Riverview West Dairy would create a significant impact not only on the water supply, and water system (Pomme de Terre River and aquifer) but also, the creatures of the area, and the total ecosystem. Where do you put all that manure? How much additional water will be needed? How many small dairy farms will this replace? In addition, this expansion, if allowed, would continue to have a deleterious effect on Minnesota's smaller dairy farmers, the small towns they support economically and socially, and as noted, the ecology of the county. It would also become the largest dairy in Minnesota in one location. I don't think any of that is good.

I encourage the MPCA to conduct an extensive, exhaustive environmental analysis on what the projected impact of this proposed dairy expansion would mean for Stevens County; and the state's small dairy farmers. This proposed dairy expansion is a massive ethical issue with extensive and potentially dangerous ramifications. It also will have, one way or another, a precedent-setting impact. It must be treated as such. The citizens of Minnesota expect the MPCA to do a thorough job of environmental reviewal.