

Wild Rice Electric Cooperative, Inc. (Tommy Houdek)

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
ATTN: Charles Peterson
520 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, MN 55155

My name is Tommy Houdek, and I am the Director of Member Services & Communications with Wild Rice Electric Cooperative, Inc. I am writing in support of Riverview's proposed West River Dairy expansion in Stevens County.

Our experience working with Riverview Dairy has been overwhelmingly positive. They have proven to be a reliable and professional partner, contributing meaningfully to the communities they operate in. From an economic standpoint, their operations provide stable, long-term benefits by supporting local jobs, driving investment, and creating opportunities for surrounding businesses. In addition to their economic impact, Riverview represents a consistent and dependable presence from an energy perspective. As a strong and stable electric load, their operations contribute to the overall efficiency and sustainability of the local electric system, which benefits the broader membership and infrastructure.

Riverview has demonstrated a commitment to maintaining strong working relationships and operating responsibly within the communities they serve. Their willingness to collaborate and invest locally makes them a valuable partner and an important contributor to rural vitality.

The proposed expansion will build on these strengths, supporting additional economic activity, creating jobs, and reinforcing the agricultural backbone that so many rural communities depend on. No EIS is needed as the state environmental review process is rigorous and very sufficient. I respectfully encourage your support and approval of this important project.

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Sincerely,

Tommy Houdek
Director of Member Services & Communications
Wild Rice Electric Cooperative, Inc.