



April 9, 2026

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

Re: Support for the Riverview West River Dairy Expansion Permit

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in strong support of the proposed expansion of Riverview's West River Dairy in Stevens County, Minnesota. As someone who works with helping dairy farmers access and maintain proper permits for their farms, I am encouraged about the future of Minnesota's dairy sector and want to see growth in the industry occur responsibly, transparently, and in alignment with sound science-based regulation.

From a financial and regulatory standpoint, I believe the existing permitting framework administered by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) is well-equipped to evaluate this project. The regulatory process in Minnesota is robust, and I trust it to appropriately assess environmental considerations and impose any necessary conditions. I do not believe additional environmental review beyond what is already underway is warranted.

Riverview has demonstrated the financial discipline and regulatory acumen of a well-managed enterprise. Their investment in advanced manure management infrastructure, water-recapture systems, and nutrient management planning reflects not only sound environmental practice but also strong business judgment. These are not afterthoughts — they are core to how Riverview operates. Their approach to reducing reliance on synthetic fertilizers through responsible organic nutrient cycling represents a meaningful benefit to surrounding farmland and demonstrates the kind of integrated thinking we want to see in Minnesota agriculture.

I am also aware that some comments have called for an Environmental Impact Statement based on economic concerns about competition within Minnesota's dairy industry. To be direct: environmental review a tool for evaluating environmental impacts, not for adjudicating market dynamics or farm size policy. Using the environmental review process to address broader economic policy questions would be a misuse of that process and would undermine the credibility of Minnesota's regulatory framework. Legislation and rulemaking are the appropriate venues for those discussions.



Riverview's expansion represents a sound investment in Minnesota's dairy future. I encourage the MPCA to apply the science and data before it, use the full range of tools at its disposal to protect Minnesota waters, and proceed with confidence in the existing process.

Sincerely,

Tim Baumgartner

Tim Baumgartner

Chief Financial and Regulatory Officer

Edge Dairy Farmer Cooperative