

Kent Bosch

I am commenting to support Riverview's expansion project near Morris. We consider ourselves lucky to farm in close proximity to two of Riverview's newer facilities in Chippewa County Minnesota. Our county was void of livestock for the most part before Riverview got involved. They are adding a needed dimension and diversity to our farmland. The liquid dairy manure is great for the soil health and better quality and lower cost than commercial Fertilizer. Putting alfalfa into our sugarbeet and corn rotation adds diversity to our other wise fairly monocrop system. Also, we are adding value to our corn Crop locally rather than shipping it overseas or out of our area on rail. This alone helps with the price by creating a lower basis for all corn producers in western Minnesota. And I can say that Riverview has been a very good environmental steward and super good neighbors while providing good jobs and opportunity for young families wanting to stay involved in farming. Most of the negative comments I see on these dairies has to do with size and scale. My thought on that is that it is better to have this type of animal agriculture than to not have any. That is where we were headed in my neighborhood. I am third generation living and farming where I am and have been around, livestock most all of my life. I know of no other smaller farm that takes better care of their animals and the environment than Riverview does.