

Conrad Spangler

My name is Conrad Spangler and I have been working with Riverview for the last 14 years. My entire life has been spent in the dairy industry. I grew up on a dairy farm, studied dairy science, practiced dairy medicine, and have been active in the dairy community for my entire life. I am writing in support of Riverview's proposed West River Dairy expansion in Stevens County.

Riverview has an unparalleled culture of caring for people, communities, cattle, and the environment. The economic activity created by their dairies supports a variety of vendors, both locally and nationally, local businesses such as grocery stores, hardware stores, accountants, lawyers, and medical professionals. Additionally, all of this economic activity brings benefits and students to the local schools.

Riverview has consistently been a good steward of the environment.

- Every year they contract a pest company to ensure that mice and rodents are not present around their facilities.
- They actively incorporate proven methods to decrease fly populations.
- They cover lagoons to reduce greenhouse gases and odors from manure.
- They closely monitor water usage to ensure responsible use of resources.

Riverview cattle facilities undergo comprehensive audits twice per year to evaluate all aspects of dairy management. Routinely the auditors comment on the cleanliness of the facilities, the high level of management observed, and the excellent culture that Riverview and its employees have created. I have no doubt that the proposed expansion will be managed at a similarly high level as Riverview has done in the past.

Projects like this are essential to maintaining a competitive and sustainable rural economy in Minnesota. Continued investment in agriculture ensures that local businesses can continue to provide jobs, services, and economic stability close to home.

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.

Sincerely,

Conrad Spangler