

Debra Hacker

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

We are Charles and Debra Hacker. We are residents of Stevens County. We are writing in support of the proposed West River Dairy Expansion.

Based on our experience and observations, Riverview operates with professionalism, integrity, and environmental responsibility. Their facilities are well-maintained, clean, and organized, and they are committed to doing things the appropriate way.

As Seniors born and raised in Stevens County, we are well aware of all the regulations that have occurred over time when it comes to manure management and water which are highly regulated in Minnesota. Riverview strives to follow these regulations, including nutrient management planning, soil testing, proper application rates, and timing based on field conditions. From what we have seen first hand, their mindset is to meet and exceed these standards to ensure responsible stewardship.

The use of manure as a nutrient source has clear benefits for local farms, including improved soil health, increased organic matter and reduced erosion. This supports long-term agricultural sustainability.

Riverview has also been a strong community partner, supporting farmers, creating jobs, maintaining roads, and investing in schools and local programs. Their communication with the community reflects their commitment to being a good neighbor.

We understand that this project is undergoing environmental review through the state's established process — one of the most rigorous in our area — and provides adequate oversight for this project. Based on the available data, existing regulations, and Riverview's proven track record, we are confident this project can continue to operate responsibly. We believe the current review process is sufficient and that additional regulatory burdens are unnecessary.

In closing, we respectfully encourage the appropriate agencies to approve the West River Dairy Expansion. This project supports local agriculture, strengthens rural communities, and reflects a responsible approach to environmental stewardship. We also believe that an EIS is not necessary.

Sincerely,^[1]_{SEP} Charles and Debra Hacker
Hancock, MN