

Minnesota Corn Growers Association (Amanda Bilek)

Please see attached comment letter from the Minnesota Corn Growers Association on the West River Dairy EAW.



May 6, 2026

Charles Peterson
Resource Management and Assistance Division
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
520 Lafayette Road North
St. Paul, MN 55155

Re: Environmental Assessment Worksheet for West River Dairy Expansion

Dear Mr. Peterson,

After reviewing the Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) for the proposed expansion at West River Dairy, the environmental review of the project is comprehensive and complete. Additionally, Riverview has a proven track record of environmental stewardship, including continuous efforts to reduce water use and the construction of innovative water-recapture basins to reduce reliance on a single water source.

Based on the information provided in the EAW, the project includes appropriate design features, regulatory compliance measures, and mitigation practices to minimize environmental effects.

In particular, the EAW demonstrates that:

- Manure management, water quality protection, and land application practices are in accordance with current regulations;
- Air quality, odor management, climate adaptation and resilience have been considered and addressed; and
- Traffic, infrastructure, and surrounding land uses have been evaluated at a level appropriate for the scale of the project.

According to the MPCA's website, "the MPCA uses the EAW process to decide whether the project's potential environmental effects should be studied further through an environmental impact statement (EIS)." The Environmental Assessment Worksheet and full environmental review process assess the risks and conditions outlined for the construction and operation of a feedlot project. Minnesota's extensive environmental review process should remain the guide for the determination of environmental risk. We would encourage the MPCA commissioner to focus on the facts of the project and use objective, scientific judgment in the review process.



Please do not hesitate to contact Amanda Bilek, Senior Public Policy Director, at 952-460-3604 or abilek@mincorn.org with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Wesley Beck". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "W" and "B".

Wesley Beck
President
Minnesota Corn Growers Association