

Ben Weiland

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

RE: Support for West River Dairy Expansion – Stevens County

Dear Mr. Peterson,

My name is Ben Weiland, and I am the owner of Weiland Farms. We provide essential services and products to agricultural operations across Minnesota, including Riverview. I am writing today to express my full support for their proposed West River Dairy expansion in Stevens County.

Our business has been rooted in the Minnesota agricultural sector since 1997. Over nearly three decades, we have seen firsthand that a strong and stable livestock industry is the backbone of our rural economy. Operations like Riverview's create the consistent economic activity that allows businesses like ours to grow, hire local workers, and reinvest in our communities.

The proposed expansion represents a meaningful economic benefit to the region. Beyond the dairy itself, the project will generate significant demand for local vendors and support both immediate construction jobs and long-term employment. This growth is vital to the health of rural communities that rely on a thriving agricultural network.

From our direct professional experience, Riverview is a reliable and responsible partner. Their presence strengthens the local economy and supports a broad network of service-related businesses. Projects like this are essential to maintaining a competitive and sustainable rural economy in Minnesota.

Furthermore, I believe the state's current environmental review process is rigorous and more than sufficient to address any concerns; therefore, no Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is needed. I respectfully encourage your support and approval of this important project.

Sincerely,

Ben Weiland Owner, Weiland Farms