

John Peck

I wish to strongly oppose this expansion plan for Ridgeview Dairy. We do not need to encourage more expansion of factory farms in our state - we need more small dairy farms, not larger corporate operations. There are only 2 dairy farms left in my township - there were over a dozen 30 years ago. This loss of small dairy farms is destroying our local economies and is also jeopardizing our state's environmental quality. I've personally seen the adverse impact of manure spills in our watersheds with thousands of dead fish in our nearby river. I do not trust the capacity (or interest) of a Ridgeview Dairy when it comes to protecting our state's environment or even caring about supporting our state's economy. I will also be submitting a separate comment to MN Attorney General, Keith Ellison, about this situation since Dairyview's expansion is also likely violating federal anti-trust regulations. Dairyview is the LARGEST dairy farm operation in the U.S. - with multiple factory farms in many states milking 100,000 cows - so it is hard to imagine how this huge milk cartel will not lead to price gouging for Midwest consumers.