

Concerned Citizen

How big is too big? Require an EIS. If there truly is no environmental concern a completed EIS will show that, yet the EAW documents are filled with concerns about water allotment, catch basins, and manure proximity to bodies of water. Simply stated the reluctance to do an EIS implies there is negative environmental impact to be found within the scope of the West River expansion. If all the energy that has been put in to avoid an EIS was put towards one, it would be done already. The reputation of Riverview has always been to go above what is "required" in order to do good work, here is the chance to do such a thing and it is being fought, why?

There should be an increased concern for a project of this size within such proximity to impaired waters such as the Pomme de Terre River which continue on into the Minnesota and Mississippi Rivers. As seen with the large manure spill near Pennock a year ago that has gone rather under the radar, accidents can and do happen. What happens when an event of similar scale, 1+ million gallons spills again, but this time into field drainage tiling that goes to county ditches and into the Pomme de Terre? It is the duty of Minnesotans to ensure we are good stewards of waterways that millions of people both in state and downstream count on. These rivers and waterways are crucial to the Midwest in being used to move goods, provide jobs, feed a nation. Causing irreversible damage needs to be avoided. Any action that will cause negative impacts should be explored, alternatives found, and plans changed. An EIS should be required.

The above only touches on the water impacts, there is also road/traffic, site noise, and community impacts that need to truly be evaluated. Please require an EIS before something goes wrong and can't be undone.