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Riverview, based out of Morris, Minn., is one of the largest dairy producers in the country. With barns and facilities spread across western Minnesota, Riverview, LLP already milks over 125,000 dairy cows in Minnesota alone. They also have a presence in North Dakota, South Dakota, and Arizona. Now, they have begun the permitting process to build the largest CAFO in Minnesota, which could create a model of industrial dairying that our state has never seen.

An EIS will allow the proposal's negative impacts on water quality and quantity, local roads, and existing independent family dairy farms to be fully analyzed before the project is allowed to seek a permit. According to the documents filed by Riverview, the proposed operation would require:

- To supply water for the operation, pumping from an off-site well will be limited to 226 million gallons per year. For reference, the City of Morris, which is home to over 5,000 people, is permitted to pump up to 300 million gallons of water a year.
- Liquid manure storage encompassing 250 million gallons of waste.
- 13,200 acres of farmland for manure application.

Riverview has a recent history of manure spills in western Minnesota. In Arizona, the company recently agreed to deliver \$11 million to residents affected by the dairy's overpumping. The proposed Stevens County site sits within five miles of eight different protected waterfowl and wildlife production areas and is part of the Pomme de Terre River watershed, just 25 miles from its confluence with the Minnesota River. A facility of this scale located in such a vulnerable area calls for a thorough environmental review

Just as importantly, an EIS of the West River Dairy Expansion proposal would address socio-economic impacts. Minnesota is already losing dozens of dairy farms annually due to inconsistent and often below cost-of-production milk prices. Massive dairy operations, like the one Riverview is proposing to build, have glutted the market and tightened Big Milk's stranglehold on the industry, allowing them to push small and medium-sized family farms out of business and off the land. This operation would only exacerbate the situation and accelerate the loss of dairy farms in our state, decimating Main Street economies in the process.

PLEASE do an EIS!!! This kind of project will do irreversible harm to our agricultural community for generations to come.