

Debra Ost

I am strongly opposed to the proposed expansion of the West River Dairy which would create a "farm" totaling 18,855 dairy cows (over 26,000 + AU). I grew up on a small dairy farm in southeastern Ottertail County. Our livestock were treated humanely, the land was stewarded sustainably, profits were fair and competitive, and we were committed to a community that depended upon one another for mutual success. I feel that such a mega-farm, as proposed, is not consistent with the values of average Minnesota farmers, nor of the important agricultural history of our state.