

Jamalea Martelle

My name is Jamalea Martelle, and I am writing in support of requiring the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency to conduct a full Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for Riverview LLP's proposed West River Dairy Expansion.

I have had the privilege of experiencing this landscape through time spent with my husband and his family along the Pomme de Terre watershed and surrounding lands. Through waterfowl hunting, whitetail deer hunting, and time spent outdoors in this region, I have created lasting memories and developed a deep appreciation for the ecological value of this watershed and the wildlife it supports.

These experiences have also allowed me to witness the growing pressures placed on these landscapes over time. The Pomme de Terre watershed and nearby wetlands are vital habitat for migratory birds, deer, and countless other species that rely on these increasingly fragmented areas for survival. Protecting these lands and waters matters not only for conservation, but for the future generations who deserve the opportunity to experience and connect with these places the same way we have.

Given the unprecedented size of this proposed CAFO, the enormous water demand, and the proximity to already impaired waterways and protected wildlife areas, I believe a full Environmental Impact Statement is necessary. Minnesotans deserve a transparent and comprehensive review of the potential impacts to groundwater, surface water, wildlife habitat, local farmers, and rural communities before any decisions are made.

An EIS is a reasonable request for a project of this magnitude. It is a responsible step toward ensuring long-term protection of Minnesota's land, water, wildlife, and rural communities.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my comments.

Jamalea Martelle