

Nancy Carpenter

I am a former resident of Morris, MN and oppose this expansion on the grounds that it is 1) unnecessary (except to increase the profits of Riverview Dairy), 2) directly harmful to family dairy farms, and 3) an environmental insult in terms of enormous water use and production of astronomical amounts of manure. The promise of growth (more jobs) in west central MN is miniscule due to the highly automated operations Riverview uses and certainly does not outweigh the harm to the natural prairie ecosystem. The "need" for more dairy could and should be met by greater support for our family farms, which are considerably less harmful to the environment. An environmental impact statement for such a gross expansion should be required for any operations this large, at minimum. Irregardless of Riverview's past performance, their desire to be considerate and responsible neighbors cannot compensate for a massive environmental impact.