

Nicole Wenzel

Hello MPCA,

The MPCA must recognize the fundamentally new nature of the Riverview Dairy Expansion threat to our land and water resources and give this permit greater scrutiny than it ever has to previous proposals. This proposal by Riverview, LLP must be required to undergo a full Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Riverview has a recent history of manure spills in western Minnesota. In Arizona, the company also recently agreed to pay \$11 million to residents affected by the dairy's overpumping. There are 8 different protected waterfowl and wildlife production areas within 5 miles of the new location, and is located as 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. Minnesota is already losing dozens of dairy farms annually due to inconsistent and often below cost-of-production milk prices - an EIS would help address the socio-economic impacts of this project. 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 local economies in the process.

PLEASE conduct a full EIS - thank you for your time and consideration. We are so lucky to have the natural resources we have in MN and the greater Midwest and need to do all we can to take care of it.