

Lyle Grimm

I am writing in support of the proposed West River Dairy expansion. As an employee at Riverview for the past 19 years, I have seen firsthand the importance of strong, responsible agricultural operations in sustaining rural communities. I was raised on a dairy farm, and although my family is no longer milking cows, I remain deeply connected to the industry. I am grateful to be part of a farm that prioritizes animal care, environmental stewardship, and long-term sustainability.

West River Dairy represents the kind of operation that helps keep rural economies alive. It provides stable jobs, supports local businesses, and contributes to the vitality of small communities like ours. Just as importantly, it plays a role in producing safe, high-quality dairy and beef products for people who rely on farmers to feed them. Many people in towns and cities do not have the ability to grow their own food, and operations like this ensure a reliable food supply while maintaining responsible environmental practices. In addition, manure from dairy operations provides a valuable source of organic nutrients for crops, helping improve soil health.

I live approximately one-half mile from the Riverview dairy farm and about seven miles from West River Dairy. In my experience, I only notice manure odors a few times per year, typically during application periods, which is expected in a rural area where livestock and crop production are part of everyday life.

I am also thankful for the long-term working relationship with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. Through this partnership, we continue to uphold regulations and implement practices that protect and enhance the environment and improve soil health. This collaboration helps ensure that agriculture can remain both productive and responsible for future generations.

I appreciate the opportunity to share my perspective and strongly support the continued growth of West River Dairy.