

## Mitch Trumble

Good morning,

My name is Mitch Trumble. I am writing to you in regards the the West River Dairy expansion project proposed for Stevens county where I live.

I have no financial investment in Riverview dairy and perhaps that is to my loss, however I do have a concern that this company is doing irreparable harm to the small farms and future farms of our area. The cost of land has been driven up incredibly high and the pockets of Riverview are very deep, no small farm can compete when it comes to land and rent prices and this is not improving. If the surrounding farms do not sell crops to the dairy for feed and in turn, BUY back liquid manure they are on the loosing end of farming next to a corporate farm that will simply out bid them on land and rent until they have it for them selves.

I am not accusing the company of malicious intent, I believe that to them "its just good business". My children will never be able to farm in the future due to the inflated costs, particularly of land in our home area, due to the Spring Valley/Riverview competition.

The second concern I have is the smell, I do not live close enough to the West River Dairy for that to be a personal issue but I am about 2 miles from the original Riverview Dairy and the smell is very noticeable. During fall when liquid manure is being applied the county stinks as a whole, the well water smells of rotten eggs and this has not been getting better.

I feel the monopoly of Riverview is hurting small family farms if they do not want to participate in the game with Riverview and sell them commodities to stay on good terms. Large corporations like Riverview are doing a disservice to the farming community in my opinion. We have enough dairy products in Stevens county, I don't see how adding 11,000 more mouths will help the small guy out. I did not post comments on the public sight as I feel a target would be on my back and most small farmers I have spoken with have the same reservations about publicly questioning this expansion.

Thank you