

Heather Nord

... I grew up on the Pomme de Terre river bottom, south of Morris. My father taught Sociology and my grandfather worked for US Fish & Wildlife, so I understand water quality issues. And as you well know, this is not just a Morris area issue. Large and small farmers along the Pomme de Terre – PDT river valley have moved fence lines away from the river, but decades later, there are still issues with high levels of bacteria in the PDT. So the problems are more complex than just moving fence lines. From what I understand, field tiles are buried 18" under topsoil, drain into ditches and then directly into river systems. Toxic manure pit slurry (also from other animal and bird facilities) is sprayed on fields or injected 8 inches under the topsoil. Current manure handling should be re-considered in all your decisions, statewide. My point, large factory facilities create heavier impact on water quality and wildlife; profits should NOT be the only consideration. What controls will you put on these open sewer lines to prevent it ending up in ground water or in the Mississippi River ? Sincerely, Heather Nord