

Carter Voorde

As someone who lives in Stevens County and will be affected by this project, I insist MPCA require a full Environmental Impact Statement before the project can go forward. This is a hugely transformative proposal that would double Riverview's operations in our county, which is not something to take lightly. It is the least that can be done to do a FULL Environmental Impact Statement in order to fully understand the impacts of this change.

A project of this unprecedented scope demands particular care in reviewing its impacts, which a full Environmental Impact Statement would provide. In addition, I believe it is important for the EIS to take into account the total projected size of Riverview's Stevens County dairy operations, including existing animal units, not just the size of the expansion. Total size matters because the larger the total size, the larger the potential impact if something goes wrong. For example, Riverview's Feb. 2025 manure spill in Kandiyohi County likely spilled approximately the same amount of manure in 5 days that an average sized MN dairy farm would produce in 6 months, based on early reports.