

May 07, 2026

Commissioner Katrina Kessler
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

Commissioner Thom Petersen
Minnesota Department of Agriculture

Dear Commissioner Kessler and Commissioner Petersen:

We are residents of western Minnesota, eastern North Dakota, and eastern South Dakota, representing generations of farmers, business owners, and communities writing to share our strong support for Riverview's proposed West River Dairy expansion and to offer our perspective as you consider the project's path forward.

Many of us have spent our lives working this land, growing crops, raising livestock and building our livelihood here. We understand firsthand the importance of protecting our natural resources while also sustaining the farms, families, and local economies that depend on them. That balance matters deeply to us, and it is why we support this project.

Riverview is not new to our communities. They have a long track record of operating with care for the land, respect for animals, and a genuine commitment to the people and rural communities where they live and work. We have seen their approach up close: investing in environmental stewardship, partnering with local farmers, and contributing to the long-term vitality of the region.

The proposed West River Dairy expansion has undergone extensive and rigorous review. The Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) and feedlot permit application together include nearly 900 pages of detailed technical analysis, developed over more than three years in coordination with state agencies. The project is subject to oversight from multiple agencies, including the MPCA, DNR, and MDH, ensuring a comprehensive evaluation of groundwater, surface water, air quality, and natural resources.

In addition, the farm will operate under an individual NPDES feedlot permit – one of the most stringent and site-specific permits in Minnesota – and includes enhanced environmental protections that go beyond baseline requirements. Riverview has also taken proactive steps to reduce impacts, including voluntarily cutting permitted groundwater use in half and incorporating stormwater capture and reuse into the project design.

Based on what we know and what has been studied, we believe the current environmental review process is thorough, science-based, and appropriate for this project. An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) should be reserved for situations where the evidence clearly demonstrates it is necessary. In this case, we are confident the existing process provides a full and careful evaluation.

For our communities, this project is also about the future, supporting family farms, creating economic opportunities, and strengthening our rural areas for generations to come. Riverview's model of working with neighboring farmers and investing locally reflects the kind of agriculture we want to see continue and grow.

We appreciate the seriousness of your roles and the responsibility you carry in reviewing projects like this. We respectfully encourage you to rely on the extensive environmental review already underway and the strong record of stewardship demonstrated by Riverview.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Travis & Rita Moser, Spring Valley Farms
Mike Yost, Yost Farm Inc
Michael Yost, Yost Farm Inc
Jim Radermacher, Yost Farm Inc
Kevin Lundberg, L&A Partnership
Cory Ahrends, Swift Pumping
Anthony Anker, Swift Pumping
Dustin Walsh, Walsh Farms
Jackson Walsh, Walsh Farms
Marc Stevens
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Marcus Goldenstein
Scott Ruitter, Ruitter Farms
Nate Hultgren, Hultgren Farms
Randy Pothen, Pothen Farms
Matt Claussen, Claussen Farms
Stan Claussen, Claussen Farms
Thomas Claussen, Claussen Farms
Richard Walsh
Jim Kanten, Kanten Farms
Brett Petersen, Petersen Farms Inc
Nathan Collins, Collins Family Farms
Kent Bosch, CK Bosch Farms
Eric Boike, Boike Farms
Douglas Finstrom, Finstrom Farms
Erik Finstrom, Finstrom Farms
Cameron Adams, Skaurud Grain Farms
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Rickie Brunner, Skaurud Grain Farms
Phillip Earle, Skaurud Grain Farms
Jacobus Esterhuizen, Skaurud Grain Farms
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John Gall, Skaurud Grain Farms
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Edward Kriel, Skaurud Grain Farms
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Kelly Skaurud, Skaurud Grain Farms
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Jaylene Lacey, Lacey Ridge Farms
Brian Lacey, Lacey Ridge Farms
Deb Lacey, Lacey Ridge Farms
Natasha Lacey, Lacey Ridge Farms
Blake Steenblock, Spring Valley Farms
Paul Adams, Paul Adams Farms
Travis Miller, Mill Farms
Jessica Miller, Mill Farms
Greg Halubok, Summit Farms
Alicia Halubok, Summit Farms
Madison Yaggie-Schuler, Children's Discovery Center
Tanner Davison, Champion Farms
Frank Davison, Champion Farms
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Nate Summerville, Summerville Electric
Dylan Summerville, Summerville Electric
Anthony Anker, Swift Pumping
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Randy Rittenour, JLR Farms
Janelle Rittenour, JLR Farms
Jerry Loxtercamp, Jerry's Pumping
Todd Klein, TAKCO Inc
Boone Carlson, Carlson Ag
Allen Yaggie, Allen Yaggie Farms Inc
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Levi Koehl, Doubletree Farm
Kurtis Koehl, Doubletree Farm
Kyle Koehl, Doubletree Farm
Derek Koehl, Doubletree Farm
Adam Koehl, Doubletree Farm
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Tom & Stephanie Borgen, Borgen Farms
Michael Porter, MJP Trucking
Joel Rinke, Rinke Farms & Triple J Seed
Jake Rinke, Rinke Farms & Triple J Seed
James Rinke, Rinke Farms & Triple J Seed
Brian Rinke, Rinke AG
Steve Fridgen, Steve Fridgen Farms
Richard Jonhson, Johnson Farms
Adam Lichtsinn, Adam Lichtsinn Farms
Craig Lichtsinn, Adam Lichtsinn Farms
Steve Rinke, SR Farms
Mitch Frisch, Wheaton Resident
Paul Frisch, Frisch Farms
Tom Frisch, Frisch Farms
Travor Timm, T&T Cattle
Trent Timm, T&T Cattle
Kyle Bessler, Bessler Farms
Lee Sebek, Sebek Farms
Ron Kohl, Kohl Farms
Dillon Lien, Lien Farms
Shane Rein, Rein Construction
Derek Hansen, DC Trucking & Tree Services
Mitch Bodin, Bodin Construction
Brian Vig, Vig Livestock & Grain
Linn Vig, LVFI Farms
Gus Buss, Proper Welding & Fabrication
Brandon Gieser, Gieser Farms
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Renny Tank, Tank Farms
Jake Doyle, Puck Application
Justin Gaukler, Gaukler Farms
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Andrew Steiner, CRK Partners
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Kaleb Koehl, CRK Partners
Taylor Gramm, CRK Partners
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Mitch Koehl, CRK Partners
Clark Koehl, CRK Partners
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Fabian Hernandez, Spring Valley Farms
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Emmit Wulf, Spring Valley Farms
Reed Wulf, Spring Valley Farms
Carlos Hernandez, Spring Valley Farms
Craig Wulf, Spring Valley Farms
Ed Wilkinson, Wilkinson Farms
Chad Malone
Kirk Aughenbaugh, Aughenbaugh Farms
Alan Aughenbaugh, Aughenbaugh Farms
Matt Aughenbaugh, Aughenbaugh Farms