

Rhyan Schicker

Thank you for reading my comment. I am extremely worried and frustrated by the Riverview Dairy proposal to install the largest CAFO MN has ever seen in the area where I live, work and recreate on the local waterways.

MN has a climate action plan with tangible goals set for 2030 and beyond. This proposal would move us against those goals as the emissions from the cows, the usage of water and the transportation of cattle would cause significant impacts to the state. The water usage outline by Riverview is as much as the town of Morris is allowed- so where is that water coming from? Are we willing to empty our already limited aquifers in the name of a mega corporation over our own residents? At the very least we need an environmental impact statement so we can make sure we are aware of the risks, and who the risks will affect were something to go wrong or over pumping to occur. Riverview has a history of over pumping and is currently facing a multi million dollar pay out to residents they affected by over pumping in AZ- a state so obviously in need of proper water usage as they are currently experiencing water shortages, how would we trust them to follow rules set in MN? (Inside Climate News; Arizona Comes to Agreement With Major Dairy Farm to Cut Groundwater Pumping That Is Draining Wells)

Riverview also had a recent MN spill in this area with limited transparency on results and impacts to the surrounding residents.

I work with farmers everyday. The amount of small farms in MN, especially small dairies has seen a devastating downfall. MN is supposed to be a state the leads the way in climate action, sustainability and care of residents. It is really hard to see how this huge feedlot is good for anyone other than Riverview. When is enough enough? We are going to continue losing small farm families and residents in our small towns, which are in need of revitalization efforts- not support for huge mega operations whose use of resources greatly overshadows the need of local residents and businesses.

Due to the unprecedented size of the facility, an Environmental Impact Statement should be done. It's what's right for our communities. MPCA needs to find a way to start putting the needs of our communities over the needs of a small percentage of large corporations and saying no to projects that go against our state climate action plan, our natural resources and wellbeing of our communities.

Please consider the need for a EIS.

Thank you for hearing my concerns,

Rhyan Schicker

Dawson, MN