

Jay Sheets

As a resident of Stevens county and living within 4 miles of Riverviews Dollymont dairy, I have great concerns over Riverviews proposed feedlot expansion. If I'm not mistaken, Riverview was only permitted to drill one well at Dollymont and limited in their total capacity to 9000 head of cattle. Dollymont dairy currently has 2 wells and are milking around 11,000 head. Of the two wells, both penetrate deep enough to go through the sandstone ledge that protects the larger lower aquifer which lies below mine. My well is 193 feet deep. My wife grew up on the farm we now live on, I'm very familiar with the water on this farm. Of the 40+ years of using the water here; it's only been in the past five to six years I've seen the water go from strictly a rusty iron and sand problem to a heavy manganese problem. Dollymont has drilled not one but TWO wells to the depth of 273 feet. Which can draw water from my shallower aquifer down through the sandstone into the lower aquifer. How are the residents of this county supposed to trust that Riverview wouldn't violate any permit they file, given their history in Dollymont twsp? I propose we need a full EIS to study what effect long term water use of this amount will do to these upper (shallow) aquifers. Also given the effects of what happened down in Arizona and what's happening with the well on my property, only 4 miles from another dairy; that I consider to be in direct violation of the permit initially proposed I'd say it warrants consideration. Thank you for your attention to this matter. Jay M. Sheets
(concerned resident)