

To whom it may concern,

I strongly support the proposed expansion of the West River Dairy in Stevens County. This project represents a meaningful opportunity to advance both the dairy industry and the broader agricultural community in our region. As a former employee of Riverview LLP, I have had the privilege of witnessing firsthand the depth of research, planning, and diligence that goes into evaluating the feasibility of a new dairy. Every aspect, down to individual animal units, is carefully analyzed, reflecting a thorough and time-intensive process that prioritizes both sustainability and operational excellence.

As someone deeply connected to agriculture and passionate about advocacy, I believe in supporting farmers and organizations like Riverview, whose mission centers on strengthening the industry and addressing critical gaps. While concerns are sometimes raised about the impact of expansion, such as increased manure production, it is important to recognize that manure is a valuable resource. When managed responsibly, it serves as an essential nutrient source that supports neighboring farms, many of which are smaller operations that benefit from these partnerships.

My personal experience with Riverview, from employment during high school and college to being a recipient of the Riverview Connect Scholarship, has shown me the organization's genuine commitment to its employees, local communities, and agricultural partners. Their investment in people and their emphasis on opportunity set them apart as a company that adds long-term value wherever they operate.

For these reasons, I fully support the West River Dairy expansion. It is a project that not only contributes to the continued growth and sustainability of local agriculture but also reflects the values of a company that consistently demonstrates integrity, innovation, and community engagement.

Sincerely,  
Gabi Joos