

Fabian Hernandez

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
ATTN: Charles Peterson
520 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, MN 55155

Support for Proposed West River Dairy Expansion

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Fabian Hernandez. I am a neighbor in Stevens County, and I am writing to express my support for the proposed West River Dairy Expansion.

From what I have observed, Riverview Dairy is operated with care and accountability. The facilities are orderly and well maintained, and staff consistently demonstrate a commitment to safe and responsible day-to-day practices.

I also understand that Minnesota has clear requirements for manure management and water use. Based on my familiarity with agriculture in this region, I recognize the importance of nutrient management planning, soil testing, appropriate application rates, and timing that reflects field and weather conditions. Riverview's approach appears aligned with those expectations, with an emphasis on meeting—and where possible exceeding—state standards for stewardship.

When managed correctly, manure provides a valuable nutrient source for crop production. It can build soil organic matter, support soil structure, and help reduce erosion—benefits that contribute to long-term farm productivity and sustainability in our area.

Beyond operations, Riverview has been an active community partner. Their presence supports local jobs and area farmers, and they have contributed to community needs such as roads, schools, and local programs. Just as important, they have shown a willingness to communicate and work with neighbors and local officials.

I understand this project is being reviewed through Minnesota's established environmental review and permitting processes, which provide meaningful oversight and accountability. Based on the information available, the existing regulatory framework, and Riverview's track record, I am confident this project can continue to operate responsibly. I believe the current review process is sufficient and that additional regulatory burdens are unnecessary.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide public comment. I respectfully encourage the appropriate agencies to approve the West River Dairy Expansion.

Sincerely,

Fabian Hernandez.