

NEWS | **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** | Sept. 24, 2025

Department of Environmental Quality Approves Permit for Riverview Farms near Hillsboro

BISMARCK, N.D. – The North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality (NDDEQ), based on careful consideration of public comments and a comprehensive application review, is issuing a Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) permit to Riverview ND LLP, for Herberg Dairy, a large Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation proposed near Hillsboro in Traill County.

The NDDEQ has reviewed and responded to all public comments, and those responses are now available at [\[deq.nd.gov/WQ/2_NDPDES_Permits/\]](https://deq.nd.gov/WQ/2_NDPDES_Permits/), alongside a detailed information package. This package includes a fact sheet outlining key permit features such as the inclusion of a clay liner for manure storage areas.

Riverview identified sufficient cropland acreage to apply the manure produced as fertilizer, aligning with North Dakota nutrient management requirements. However, based on public concerns, the NDDEQ continues to evaluate the 100-year floodplain analysis. As a precautionary measure, no fields in the floodplain were approved, while maintaining the required minimum acres for the nutrient management plan.

While many issues raised during the public comment period were addressed, it is important to note that certain concerns, such as the facility's water source and the operation's location, fall outside the NDDEQ's jurisdiction and are not subject to review under the permit process.

The NDDEQ remains committed to ensuring the protection of the environment and public health. During the construction phase, staff will conduct regular facility inspections to ensure full compliance with all permit conditions. Once the operation begins, inspections will occur at least annually to verify continued adherence to permit requirements.

"We greatly appreciate the feedback provided by the public and the care taken to submit thoughtful comments," said Marty Haroldson, Director of the NDDEQ Permits Program. "We also acknowledge the flexibility of Riverside in addressing these concerns and incorporating adjustments to the permit. This collaborative approach helps ensure environmental and public health protections are robust and effective."

For more information on the permit, public comments, and NDDEQ responses, please visit [\[deq.nd.gov/WQ/2_NDPDES_Permits/\]](http://deq.nd.gov/WQ/2_NDPDES_Permits/).

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