

David and Marlene Metner
PO box 8,
Moosehorn MB
R0C 2E0

Re: The Proposed relocation and expansion of a beef operation Gall Family Farm (TRC 12-062)

Attention: Technical Review Co-ordination Unit
Municipal Relations
604-800 Portage Avenue
Winnipeg Manitoba
R3G 0N4
Fax: (204) 948-4042

For your information:

For over the last 100+ years, the Metner family has homesteaded and lived across the roadway to the north of the proposed 903 Animal unit livestock operation the Gall Family wants relocate onto NE 33-26-8WPM and NW 33-26-8WPM. We would like to take this opportunity to voice our very strong objection to this relocation proposal involving this very large cattle operation.

These 2 quarter sections have never had the quantity of Cattle being proposed to be relocated onto them and they are drained by sloughs sloping to the North west connecting to the provincial drainage ditch traveling the entire length of the north side of these two quarters, which in turn, drains directly into Lake Manitoba at the Moosehorn Beach Provincial Campground. The effluent created by this operation will be put directly into the provincial drain through normal drainage and the spring flooding we experience each year, fouling the lake at the provincial camp ground with the nutrient run off, making our pristine provincial beach area eventually unusable by anyone. My grand kids swim in this area and I will not stand by while they and the campers who come here, are exposed to pathogens originating from the manure created by this proposed cattle operation along side the provincial drain.

The NE 33-26-8WPM property directly to the south of us has 5 natural springs in a NW/SE line, about 200 yards from the west side of the property, 2 of which run year round and 3 which dry up towards fall leaving a unobstructed downward path for the feed lot runoff liquid to go into the aquifer from which we draw our drinking water. It is not acceptable that we will be now contaminated in this way. The two springs that do not dry up will take the feed lot contaminants from the entire depth of the property and deliver the feces and urine as surface liquid into the provincial drain to the north and on into the lake at Moosehorn Beach. The Galls have already dug a drain along the line of the springs through the bush northward to make sure this happens so they have a dry feed lot area.

Having this size of a cattle operation a few hundred yards from our homestead which is going into its 4th generation of ownership will create an unacceptable level of noise and stink from the sheer quantity of cattle and cattle manure being held here which we will be forced to live with if this is allowed to happen without objection. Who will be responsible for this when it becomes intolerable? These quarters previously handled 30 to 40 head of cattle at a maximum. What will 903 head of cattle do to the peace and quiet we have now on our homestead. It will become intolerable.

How will the manure and dead animals created from this operation be handled? Presently the dead cattle are simply placed on stone piles and on brush piles by the Galls, attracting wild animals to the

stench and rotting carcasses that foul the air we now breath.

There is not enough high land owned by the Galls close by, to handle this manure without contaminating our surface water and Lake Manitoba.

The Galls, in addition to these two quarters being proposed for the beef operation, have three other quarters which are also subject to spring flooding each year, one to the east of us at SW 15 27 8WPM and one two miles to the west at SW 17 27 8WPM, and one at one mile to the west at NW 32 27 8WPM. All 3 quarters would be unsuitable for the spreading of manure as they flood and directly drain into the provincial drainage system each spring. All the Galls land here drains into the drainage ditch.

At SE 15 27 8WPM, right now across the road from our house, the cattle are presently being fed by the Galls right along side of the provincial drain passing through their property with large amounts of cattle manure in close proximity, as well as directly in the drain which now plugs up with bulrushes and grass each year from the nutrients coming in from the feeding area. This is the view we get to see now each day from out our living room window and the stink we have to tolerate each spring as the manure pack thaws out. This needs to stop and be cleaned up so the manure no longer enters this watershed, eventually traveling through our property and on into Lake Manitoba.

The Galls manure handling method to date has been to never clean up the manure, they simply use it as a method of filling in the low spots in the quarters until it grows grass and becomes as high land, and no-one realizes the manure is there. There are acres of up to 5' deep of manure in places on the old Gall home quarter at SW 17 27 8WPM, all which will now have to be relocated by the Province as it proceeds with the new drain for Lake Manitoba through this feeding area and all without any monetary input from the Galls who were directly responsible for the contamination. This needs to be addressed at this review stage right now. Why should our tax dollars be funding the cleanup of the manure that the Galls placed there on purpose so they did not have the expense or responsibility of the manure cleanup as required in this province for other farm locations. Who will clean up the manure pack presently draining into the drainage ditch to the east of us in SE 15 27 8WPM which now comes through our property and contaminates our property?

I would like to see answers to the above concerns and no approval granted for this operation being expanded and relocated beside our house. I believe many of the facts listed above can not be addressed and this proposal should be refused to be approved. Put the feedlot elsewhere, not beside our house.

Sincerely

David and Marlene Metner

SE 16 27 8WPM

Ryan and Andrea Metner
PO box 305
Moosehorn MB
R0C 2E0

January 7, 2020

Re: proposal for the relocation and expansion of the gall beef operation (TRC 12-062)

Att: Technical Review co-ordination unit
Municipal Relations
604-800 portage avenue
R3G 0N4
Fax: (204)948-4042

Having recently had this issue come to my attention I am shocked that this is even under consideration.

Though there may be places to construct a 903 animal unit livestock operation, NE 33-26-8WPM and NW33-26-8WPM is not that place. I live on a very small family farm across the road. Our family has been at this location for 100+ years. In that time I have learned something. This area is prone to extensive spring water flow, as in the roads and fields frequently flood in the spring. Where does that water go? It either runs directly across the road into my yard as the ditch line floods, or it runs directly into lake Manitoba. The provincial drain ditch in front of this property at NE 33 26 8WPM and NW 33 26 8WPM joins the creek at Watchhorn provincial park directly. 903 cattle will flood the area with manure. The spring waters will run that manure directly into the drain ditches and direct it into the exact spot in the creek where our children have swimming lessons that are conducted every year. Children will end up swimming in a sewer of cattle shit. The marsh lands surrounding that property are home to countless bird species and the local Sucker fish (Mullet), Jackfish (Pike) and Pickerel fish come up the creek from lake Manitoba to spawn in both these creeks and ditches. The manure contamination will do major damage for our fisheries. It was my understanding that wetlands are to be protected in Manitoba. Or, is that as long as no one wants to pump cow shit through them? This property in question holds multiple springs which open into our aquifer. How is the Gall family going to keep the manure of over 900 cattle out of our aquifer where we get our drinking water? This is not possible and for many reasons this cannot be allowed to happen.

My wife is in delicate health. Multiple life threatening abdominal surgeries have left her with a delicate system. Illnesses that cause vomiting frequently have her hospitalized on IVs, as she is so prone to dehydration and injury, and you want to risk contaminating my well? Do I tell her as she's sobbing and vomiting from the contamination of our water that its OK, because at least there are 900 cows next door put there by the gall family who does not give a shit except for their relocation and the cattle?

How about the noise? I can hear the neighbors talk if I sit on my deck from 1/4 miles away. It echos across the open fields here. There will never be a moments peace between the cattle bellowing and the stink. Its bad enough the Galls have their bulls across the road on SW 15 27 8WPM and I have to deal with the 20 of them bellowing and the mounds of shit and winter bedding they leave lie on the open grass in front of my driveway and along the drainage ditch. That field has a drain too. Right into the front ditch, leaving the water brown with manure filth. What do I do when the animals break loose? This is common with the Gall farm and they are hard to get a hold of as they are not often available by phone or ignore the calls. Am I to be held hostage in my home as his bulls trash my well kept yard and garden? I'm right across the damn road.

In the past and to this point in time, Gall has simply left his dead animals lie in the open for days, causing coyotes, all the neighborhood dogs, and scavenger birds to flock in to the rotting carcasses. My sister lost her two kittens and we lost a dog after a dead cow was left thrown on a brush pile across the road from us. Do I have to look forward to walking my yard armed, to fight off the predators his dead cattle attract? Will my nephews be safe a couple hundred feet away as coyotes, wolves and bears are drawn to the easy meat? This has to stop now.

I guess the kids will be safer outside there then drinking from our future manure contaminated well or catching fish from our spawning creek/drainage ditch that is now full of cattle shit on SW 15 27 8WPM and will soon be an open stinking manure pool from over 900 head of cattle all the way to the lake. If we want to see the algae blooms and swimmers itch infections that lake Winnipeg is famous for, just put 900+ cattle on a direct line to the lake and wait. This will happen in our pristine Lake MB for sure and the campers and children at Moosehorn beach will be swimming in the Galls cattle shit all over again. The Galls home quarter at SW 17 27 8WPM has been a serious source of manure contamination into our creek for years and I want to make sure they do not do this all over again across the road from our 100+ year old homestead where our family has to live across the road from the noise and stink.

I sincerely oppose the relocation of the Gall cattle operation to the above listed location which will contaminate our home environment, our drinking water, and the waters of Lake Manitoba.

There must be a better place the Galls can put these cattle where the 903 animal cattle operation will not effect the environment, or the people living close by, as it will in this location.

Sincerely
Ryan and Andrea Metner.
SE 16 27 8WPM

Victoria Metner
Box 175
Moosehorn Manitoba
R0C 2E0

Re: Proposed relocation and expansion of Gall Family beef farm (TRC 12-062)

Attention: Technical Review Coordination Unit
Municipal relations
604-800 Portage Ave
Winnipeg Manitoba
R3G 0N4
Fax: 204-948-4042
Email: TRC@gov.mb.ca

Hello,

I would like to submit my concerns and objection in regards to the proposed 903 head, cattle operation that has been proposed for NE 33-26-8WPM.

My family has our farm directly across the road from this proposed location, which we have resided on for over 100 years at this point. This proposed cattle feed lot would create severe issues with noise pollution, waste run off that would contaminate our well water, and intolerable smell and pest issues. I strongly object to the location of this proposed feed lot.

These sections of land have never supported more than 30 to 40 head of cattle before, and are primarily hay land and low marsh with several open running springs and direct connections into the creeks leading to Watchhorn Provincial Park.

This region experiences regular flooding every spring, and this would result in large amounts of manure run off being introduced into our water table and into Lake Manitoba every year. On drought years this effluent would be draining directly into the groundwater, due to the drainage connecting into the several open springs found on the property.

I am deeply concerned that the fecal coliforms introduced into our ground water from this operation would directly contaminate the wells of our farm, and any neighbours in the direct vicinity; including Donna Helm, Samantha and Ryan Keisman, and many more. All of these farms and family homes are in the same water table, and are at risk of contamination if effluent from this proposed feed lot is allowed to drain into the springs and creeks on NE 33-26-8WPM. Water stewardship should not even be willing to consider such a proposal, based on the location of the drainage for this section. There is also potential to contaminate the groundwater table of the town of Moosehorn, directly down the road from this operation, which feeds from the same groundwater levels.

There is also the concern of fecal contamination at Watchhorn Provincial Park, as the proposed feed lot drainage that has ALREADY been dug by the Galls will directly drain the effluent into the system that feeds the creek connecting to Lake Manitoba through the Park. You may not be aware, but this creek that the effluent will be drained into is the same creek in which local children's swimming lessons are held every summer. Our local children will be swimming in cattle feces if this proposal is approved, because all of the regular spring run off will be draining into this exact channel. The creek drains directly into the main section of Watchhorn beach, so it will also contaminate the entire developed beach region in the park, where families rent lots and bring their children to play in the water

every summer. This would leave the province of Manitoba open to potential lawsuits if children end up sick from the contaminated water, because you would be the ones on the hook for approving the source of the contamination. The Gall farm could simply lay the blame at your feet, with the argument that since the province approved the cattle lot, it's the province's fault not theirs. As a teacher, I am horrified by the possibility of my students and family members swimming in contaminated water from this proposed cattle operation.

Another concern is how will dead cattle be managed in this operation if it is approved? David Gall currently owns the field directly across the road from our driveway. Formerly owned by Donna Helm, SW 15-27-8WPM; which they have turned into a feed lot for their bulls in winter and yearlings in spring. Over the last 5 years they have had numerous issues with dead cattle, which they simply push into the brush instead of removing. This has led to an increase in pest species around our home, including coyotes, wolves, and bears that have been attracted by these rotting cattle. They have done nothing to deal with the manure, simply packing it into low sections of the property, which has led to run off contaminating the ditch along that side of the road and creating a terrible stench. The ditch is now constantly clogged with rushes and weeds that feed off the contaminated water, causing major issues with spring drainage. I can only imagine how much worse it will be, with over 900 cattle on a section no larger than this one.

The Gall's have also failed to consistently maintain their fences at SW 15-27-8WPM, resulting in cattle escaping their property and damaging our yard, hay field and bales several times a year. It is difficult enough to chase off a dozen escaped bulls that are rampaging through my garden, I cannot imagine the damage we would be facing in the same shoddy fence repair in used in the new proposal. At no point have the Gall's ever compensated us for the damage their cattle have caused to our hay fields, bales, yards, or garden.

The province is already going to be stuck cleaning up the Gall's former farmsite, where the same method of manure being packed into the low areas has been in play for years. The region where the new drainage channel for the Lake is proposed, will have to be extensively dug out around their former farm site in order to prevent contamination to THAT drainage channel. And here they are, proposing to create an even worse contamination issue just down the road? That is absolutely unacceptable. I'm amazed the province hasn't made them remove the contamination of their former site themselves, I don't see why the Provincial government should be forced to pay twice as much to clean up their mess before installing the new Lake drain channel. The other sections owned by Gall farms are not large enough to distribute the amount of manure that will be generated by this proposed operation (SW 15-27-8WPM, SW 17-27-8WPM, and NW 32-27-8WPM), and they have already proven that they will not be removing it anyway.

I would like to see these concerns addressed before anything is approved for any operation on section NW 33-26-8WPM (TRC 12-062), a full report from Water Stewardship, as well as full consultations done with those risking potential water contamination, including the board of Watchhorn Provincial Park, the town of Moosehorn, and all of the farms and families surrounding the proposed operation.

Thank you, and I look forward to your response to these concerns.

Victoria Metner
SE 16-27-8WPM