

Lori and Rick Fraser
Minto, Manitoba

February 22, 2021

Technical Review Co-ordination Unit
Municipal Relations
604-800 Portage Avenue
Winnipeg, MB
R3G 0N4

RE: Woodford Feeders (TRC 12-078)

We are neither for nor against this barn but have concerns:

We are concerned about the main route for this barn 26N should be 28N. The road 26N that is being designated right now, is not maintained enough to bear the extra traffic on it. In the spring after minimum traffic, it becomes a struggle to use it. We know this because it is our main route to several fields. When restrictions are on HWY 23.

26N is our only route to these fields, which is our business. Even without Hylife feeder barns being built and serviced for feed and hauling, the maintaining of 26N has been a struggle.

We feel that it would be unfair for our family farm business to suffer because of Hylife.

Also, Hwy 23 is looking at upgrades as early as this year, so it will be untravelable for the year. We will have traffic that normally using 23 (without restrictions) using 26N. The conditions on 26N in the spring are already limited, as farmers having a vested interest in maintaining this road, we try to respect the amount of usages we have on it. And avoid it when the frost is coming out. Will Hylife be as concerned?

The other concern will be snow removal, will Hylife have priority over the farm businesses?

We are hearing rumors of 10 barns being built in Grassland? Can our roads really handle the extra traffic?

We cannot see the benefit of Hylife barns for the whole municipality of Grassland. We only see that Killarney does benefit.

I have attached a news article from Realagriculture stating that the Canadian pork industry is asking for funding to subsidize hog operations. In 2008 the federal government committed to a breeding herd reduction plan, that landed the pork farmers (Hylife) a win fall of \$225 a hog., our tax dollars .So, my question is for a industry that needs subsidized WHY are they expanding. In 2008 they closed barns, is Hylife putting up a bond to cover the expenses of the closing of these barns and putting the land back into grain production?

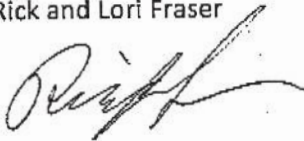
What we are saying is Slow Down, lets see how the municipality roads handle the extra traffic. Why can we not wait till Highway 23 upgrades are done and hopefully have no restrictions, so that the traffic from the feeder barns are not using 26N.

1. A bond is needed for the expense of closures of barn and cleanup of site.
2. Walk before you sprint, the building of these barns are going way too fast, we don't want to look back with regrets.
3. Every barn will be different and have its own environmental impact.
4. SLOW DOWN!!!!!!

Sincerely,



Rick and Lori Fraser





realagriculture

Canadian Pork Council asks government for around \$500 million in emergency direct producer payments

April 23, 2020

It has been a brutal month for the North American pork sector due to demand destruction, packing plant closures, and hog futures that have dropped by at least 30 per cent. With every plant shutdown, the inventory of market-ready hogs compounds, increasing the stress on the entire value chain.

The Canadian Pork Council (CPC) released details on Thursday of its request for help from the federal government, which now includes ad hoc direct payments to support the immense financial burden placed on Canadian hog producers. The program is yet to be officially approved by the government but will be presented to the Minister of Finance later today.

The details of what the CPC is seeking are as follows:

- \$400 to \$500 million in direct payment to producers (approximately \$20 per head per hog);
- Immediate payment to deal with urgent severity of the situation;
- Will cover all hog producers in the value chain, including farrow to finish and iso-wean production.
- It is not tied to inventory depopulation decisions.

Rick Bergmann, CPC Chair and Manitoba pork producer, says that COVID-19 has made a bad situation worse. Bergmann says that the hog market has been in free-fall for the last few weeks, and Canada's 7,000 hog producers are facing market devastation, and the hurt will only increase as the pandemic drags on.

"Market returns do not cover costs right now. Initial panic buying has ceased and now, producer prices are falling because of oversupply (induced by lost access to processing and overseas markets), even while retail prices are rising," Bergmann

says. Farm-gate prices have fallen 30 per cent at a minimum. Isoweans — 25 day-old pigs have zero value in the market place — literally, they have no dollar value.

Bergmann says the industry is anticipating \$675 million in losses anticipated, calculated at -\$30/hog for each hog marketed, on average. The losses could be as high as \$50, depending on the region.

“This can’t be maintained,” he says. The government has pushed money out to businesses, but it doesn’t address the challenges hog producers are facing. “It’s a cash flow crisis and is impacting our viability. Without support, farmers won’t be in a position to pay existing bills and debt, let alone additional debt.” Farmers are facing the grim reality of possibly aborting sows or instituting welfare slaughter, as has happened in Eastern Canada at least once already where market-ready animals were euthanized.

The CPC is asking the federal government to protect the food supply and has requested emergency action and support payments, to pay bills, and add confidence in the market for farmers and consumers.

“Without action, family farms will be threatened and are threatened already,” Bergmann says.

It was announced last week by the White House that American pork producers will receive \$1.6 billion in COVID-related assistance. The National Pork Producers Council expressed concern that the amount will “fall short of what is truly needed.”

During the last major crisis for the Canadian hog sector in 2008, the federal government committed \$50 million to a breeding herd reduction program, where producers who agreed to empty at least one barn of breeding stock for a minimum of three years received 225 dollars per culled sow, bred gilt, or boar.

February 20, 2021

Technical Review Co-ordination Unit
Municipal Relations
604-800 Portage Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3G 0N4

RE: Pappy Feeders (TRC 12-077)

Dear Sir/Madame

I received the "Share Your Views" concerning the proposed establishment of a pig operation – Pappy Feeders (TRC 12-077) today requesting feedback **no later than February 22, 2021.**

According to https://gov.mb.ca/mr/livestock/public_registries.html the filing was made January 13, 2021.

You asked for feedback.

My family has lived and farmed in Southwestern Manitoba for well over 100 years in what was known as Whitewater Municipality (merged into Grassland Municipality). I grew up on the family farm in Fairfax, Manitoba and still own land there. It is challenging for farmers to make a living these days...low prices for grain, high prices for equipment. I do not begrudge local farmers from improving their margins by expanding their operations to include pig farming etc. I do have some concerns about the following:

HyLife is owned by Thailand and Japanese companies. **Does the province of Manitoba want foreign companies to own and manage significant amounts of farmland in the province?** Each HyLife requires farmers to sell 80 acres of land to build and operate each pig operation...in return the farmer uses to biosolids from the operation as fertilizer. This might represent a relatively small portion of a farmer's land in 2020s but could within a short timeframe lead to non-Canadians owning large portions of farmland in Western Canada. Ask yourself – can local farmers pay more for land than a large corporate farm? Who will want to live in the community when a plethora of pig operations are set up in the community?

What happens if the company runs into problems? Large companies off-load their problems by hiring lawyers and tying the local and provincial governments up in large expensive legal proceedings. If things get bad they declare bankruptcy and the clean-up becomes the responsibility of the local and provincial governments.

Pig diseases. <https://www.aasy.org/shap/issues/v2n4/v2n4p15.pdf>. There are a number of swine diseases that can cause significant economic problems. In 2019 experts believed that China would lose 20 to 70 percent of its domestic pig herd to African swine flu (ASF). Since China confirmed the first case of ASF, the virus spread throughout the country within a few months and beyond its borders across Asia. The disease continuously affects many pig production countries in Asia. How would local municipalities, provincial and the federal government respond?

Water Quality - https://gov.mb.ca/mr/livestock/public_registries.html. The Livestock Technical Review Public Registry contains completed Site Assessments, supporting documents and information for each proposal received. The technical reports do not address:

- The impact of the daily withdrawal of significant amounts of groundwater
- The baseline assessment of water quality in wells before building the pig barns and a plan to monitor the well water on the 80 acres owned by Hylife and other wells in the community. This is something that should be paid for by Hylife and monitored under the authority of the provincial government.
- Impact fees – Hylife should not just agree (in writing) to pay for remediation but to post a substantial bond (think \$100 million) up front to cover the cost of remediation.

Can ground water be impacted. Check out information on the Springhill Farms operation in Neepawa, MB that was acquired by Hylife.

https://www.manitoba.ca/sd/eal/registries/2755.2r3innovations/noa_request_aug_14_2020.pdf

I found the following report on the hydrogeology of Manitoba but came away wondering. How will the water quality of current and future generations of Manitobans be impacted by decisions that we make today? Groundwater in Manitoba. Hydrogeology, Quality Concerns, Management. NHRI Contribution No. CS-93017 March, 199. Environmental Sciences Division National Hydrology Research Institute Environment Canada Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

Air Quality, Value of Land and Quality of Life. These are all important issues that will also be impacted if we continue to approve corporate farming operations in Manitoba. Government officials in Winnipeg and municipal governments need to take a broader perspective; not just looking at corporate tax dollars when deciding to approve (or deny) existing and future pig operations by Hylife and other corporate entities. Is this the future of farming in Manitoba? I would also ask government officials – what would you do if a large scale pig operation set up shop right in your back yard! Would you be so quick to approve a pig operation or multiple pig operations?

Economic issues also come into play. Is it true that Hylife wants a \$238 subsidy per hog from the government? Is it true that Hylife will only pay \$8K in taxes per hog operation? The term “corporate welfare” comes to mind.

Message to local and provincial government – make corporate companies such as Hylife set up a bond for \$100 million dollars to pay for monitoring and future problems over the next few decades. Mark my words...there will be complaints and issues that come up that will need to be addressed. Get the money up front.

Sincerely,

Don Fraser, PharmD MBA

To: [+WPG139 - TRC \(MR\)](#)
Subject: Woodford Feeders TRC 12-078
Date: February 22, 2021 11:54:36 PM

To whom this concerns,

This email is regarding the proposed Woodford Feeders hog barn site 2 1/2 miles South East of Minto, MB.

We are a young family living on NE 36-4-19 which places us 3 miles directly downwind as the prevailing winds blow. We know that despite your manure storage methods and the manure injection system, we will, with certainty, be exposed to the hog odour problem in perpetuity whenever the NW wind blows. The fans in these barns expel the foul stench constantly! Your letter states that your FIRST CONCERN is to "set the operations maximum distance away from residences". In this instance, there are 3 more young families within 1 1/2 miles of our location and 4 more families situated even closer to the Alcester school site. It does not show any evidence of the any concern for downwind sites! Thank you for your time!

Sincerely
Brenda Glover

Dale Houston

• Boissevain, MB

Date: February 22nd 2021

Technical Review Co-ordination Unit
Municipal Relations
604-800 Portage Avenue
Winnipeg, MB R3G 0N4

Dear Technical Review Co-ordination Unit:

I'm writing to express my concerns towards the proposal from Hylife-Woodland Feeders for a 10,000 growers finisher operation at SE ¼ 15-5-19 WPN reference number TRC 12-078. My wife and I along with our three young children live on the NE 30-4-18 WPN 4 Miles to south east of the proposed site. Our family is very concerned what issues having our home located down wind in the direction of the prevailing winds for region for a large portion of the year. A livestock operation of that size will create large odor and with a wind from the northwest will blow directly at our home. This is an issue for our family that we will not have the ability to open windows on our house or be outside and enjoy our yard with our family when the odor is too strong.

I'm also very concern with the terrible conditions of our RM roads that at times areas are unsafe to travel on. I understand this not a direct related issue to a proposed hog barn but the livestock and feed do need to travel to barn. Our RM roads can't handle any more heavy truck traffic. We don't regularly travel the roads directly accessing the proposal site but once all the heavy trucks accessing the barn destroy or make the roads unsafe to travel, trucks will access the barn on other routes which that our family uses to everyday to get to and form our home.

Our family is proud to call this region home and my career being involved in the local agriculture industry we want there to economic growth in our region. I don't feel the economic benefits that a Hylife-Woodland hog barn not being locally owned would bring enough benefits to the community to overcome the negatives created by the barns construction. For the reason of large odor and damage to local roads from heavy trucks accessing the barn will negatively effect the local residents like my family which is way I don't want the proposed hog barn to be built.

Please consider my concerns in your decision.

Sincerely,

Dale Houston

Minto, MB

February 17, 2021

Technical Review Co-ordination Unit
Municipal Relations
604 – 800 Portage Avenue
Winnipeg, MB
R3G ON4

To Whom it May Concern:

Re: Woodford Feeders (TRC 12-078)

We would like to go on record as being opposed to the establishment of a pig operation at SE 15-5-19 WPM as referenced above. Being a landowner two miles west of the proposed operation and as retired residents of the Village of Minto we are not in favor of granting the above licence.

We have read articles on this type of operation and Hylife and other companies praise how they keep the odor down but no one says it is eliminated. The land that Mr. Rourke and the other farmers who have agreed to for spreading the manure are directly adjacent to the village of Minto. Not to mention that part of Mr. Rourke's land abuts a natural runway where we assume some of the spreading will take place.

It seems that large companies can come out and build these barns in low populated areas and then they can go back to the city to get away from the stench. Because we choose to live in a small community, why should we have to suffer. We feel that this barn may be a burden to our health and also may cause a loss of value of our home if and when we decide to sell.

Because of the proximity to the Village of Minto, we believe this pig barn should not be erected on the above property.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Yours truly,

Barry & Barb Rea

To: [+WPG139 - TRC \(MR\)](#)
Subject: Proposed hog barns
Date: January 31, 2021 6:13:37 PM

Concerning the site @ SE 1/4 15-5-19 WPM: We have land 2 miles South of the proposed site, @ SW 2-5-19; and we live just South on NW 1/4 36-4-19. Thus the prevailing NW wind would constantly & without fail drench our yard in PIG STENCH almost daily. We are both elderly, and cannot relocate, as well my wife has had a lung removed due to cancer surgery, so her breathing is SEVERELY compromised. We would be unable to remain on our farm yard (which took us 45 years to build up). There are 2 more yards within 3/4 mile of ours, they would also be subject to the same STENCH. We ask that this barn site be disallowed. Vera & Henry Isaac.
Sent from my iPhone

To: [+WPG139 - TRC \(MR\)](#)
Subject: Municipality of Grassland - Proposed Hog Operation
Date: February 2, 2021 12:41:14 PM

Good afternoon

Unfortunately, this is the second time I am writing to you about proposed establishments of hog operations in the Municipality of Grassland.

Reference: TRC 12-078 / TRC 12-076 / TRC 12-077

It was very disappointing that our concerns were not heard last time and the project was allowed to proceed.

Is there a case where ratepayers concerns would out way a project that meets all of the technical requirements?

We are landowners and residents of the Municipality of Grassland with concerns on the proposed establishment of **3 more** hog operations, especially the one proposed for SE ¼ 15-5-19 (TRC 12-078) as this will be only 3 – 4 miles from our residence and the village of Minto.

Community members of neighboring municipalities openly share their frustration with hog operations in their areas, with the biggest concern being the offensive odor. This will undoubtedly decrease the value of our residential property when the time comes for us sell.

Another major complaint is the traffic of big trucks on our roads and the major expense this will create for the Municipality and then transferred to the taxpayer.

In my previous letter I asked the question, if one hog operation is approved in the Municipality, how many more will follow? Well, at this point we are looking at 3 more and not even a year has passed!

We are hoping careful consideration is made in this decision, and the taxpayers concerns are heard, as the quality of rural life for many residents will be affected.

Regards,
Chris & Mavis Winters

To: [+WPG139 - TRC \(MR\)](#)
Subject: HyLife wants more hog sites in the Municipality of Grassland.
Date: January 28, 2021 7:01:18 PM

To the Manitoba Technical Review Co-ordination Unit :

cc. Manitoba Government

Here we go again! There is no need to rehash all the reasons for turning down HyLife's request for more factory hog barns. Everybody knows there are more reasons for turning them down than allowing them in your community.

Despite the fact that this business is foreign -owned and stocked with, mostly, foreign workers the Manitoba government will bend over backwards to make this go through, smoothly. The red tape has been cut!. HyLife will prevail!. Making money at Manitobans'expense and pathetic jobs matter most. Must be good royalties. No?

Long story short. I was born and raised in SW Manitoba. I was damn proud to be a Manitoban. Bragged about it's beautiful farmland and lakes to everyone I met. Can't do that anymore.

There is a long and dark polluting shadow over the land. Factory hogs sites dot the landscape. Doesn't appear to be any end of it in sight. Hogs and more hogs!!!

Manitoba is a lost cause. People have given up trying to save it. The hog industry owns it. Our ancestors would be ashamed . What a waste and fouling of a beautiful province.

I still own some property in and near Killarney. I spend some time ,in the summer, there despite the stink wafting from factory hog barns, most days and nights.

If it weren't for the factory hog barns my family would spend more time there. WE used to spend so much time at Killarney Lake. That is over now, too. The beach is empty. The lake is polluted with toxic blue green algae, most of the summer.

My sister is moving to Calgary, as I write this. Sold their home in Killarney. Couldn't deal with the stench of hog barns, even in town on a lot surrounded with trees. The changes that have overtaken the town with HyLife's presence has soured many relationships.

Now my three siblings, and their families. have moved away from Manitoba.

Our ancestors settled in SW Manitoba because it had so much to offer. Not now!

The Manitoba government is scraping the bottom of the barrel by encouraging more HyLife business. Are you so desperate you will do anything for such Lowlife business?

The people of Manitoba are beaten down ,I get that. Many of us have tried so hard to save this province from this humiliation but we wasted our time. The factory hog takeover had its stamp of approval even before the hearings. We knew !

It's a sad situation when people give up. All I can hope is that one day HyLife will get what they deserve. Disease in the hog population could end them.

These are not nice people.

-They sell out their province to foreign buyers.

-They get special handouts from government.-taxpayers' money.

- They pollute the waterways and wells and disrespect the communities around them by stinking them out.

-They are asking for many more years extensions on sow stalls, even though they know these stalls are cruel and inhumane. So disgusting!

I have given up on Manitoba. The MB government will cater to these takers.

I will NEVER give up trying to save these poor pigs from the nightmarish conditions they have to endure. Regulations and laws regarding the treatment of factory animals are immoral and never should have been permitted.

There is beautiful farmland in the Grasslands Municipality. I get the impression they are

willing to sell their souls to the devil. "Evil grows where the sun doesn't shine" -in hog barns.
It's regrettable that they have such short vision, no creative business ideas and choose to live in
the dark world of HyLife.

There's a HighPrice to pay for inviting HyLife into your community.

Thank you .

Sincerely,

Denise Trafford

Calgary