

From: Accalia Robertson [REDACTED]
Sent: April 28, 2024 10:24 PM
To: +WPG139 - TRC
Subject: TRC 12-102

I am writing concerning the expansion of a broiler operation, Midwest Poultry Ltd. (TRC 12- 102) in my municipality, the R.M. of Ritchot.

Broiler chickens in intensive livestock operations are raised in crowded unnatural conditions, which are breeding grounds for disease. The Canadian Food Inspection Agency is currently responding to cases of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) in birds across Canada. Expanding intensive poultry operations in our municipality at this time is deeply concerning.

Here in the R.M. of Ritchot, we also have an air pollution problem, with a continual influx of foul-smelling air from the existing intensive animal agriculture operations. This stench is very familiar and unwelcome to many residents. Increasing the intensity of farmed animals from 68,000 to 100,000, as in the proposal, only exacerbates this problem.

Scientific evidence overwhelmingly indicates that animal agriculture is a main driver of biodiversity loss, climate change, land use change, freshwater withdrawals, nitrogen and phosphorus pollution. Animal agriculture is more resource intensive and environmentally costly than plant-based alternatives. It's important that our municipality leads the way toward plant based food systems, rather than further investing in the status quo.

Additionally, the animal welfare concerns involved with expanding a broiler operation are numerous. The process of selective breeding and feeding methods aimed at fast growth of birds culminates in a life of suffering for broiler chickens. Many birds endure deformities, respiratory and heart issues, and chronic pain due to their accelerated growth. These conditions make it difficult for them to move, walk, and engage in natural behaviours. Cramming 100,000 birds into a windowless building is unnatural, inhumane, and deeply unethical. We can do better.

I urge the Livestock Technical Review Committee to deny this proposal for expansion by Midwest Poultry Ltd. (TRC 12-102).

Sincerely,

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Accalia Robertson (she / her)

From: Adam Thiessen [REDACTED]
Sent: April 20, 2024 10:20 AM
To: +WPG139 - TRC
Subject: TRC 12-102 Expansion of Midwest Poultry Ltd.

Hello,

My name is Adam Thiessen. My wife [REDACTED] and our 4 children live at [REDACTED] in Niverville Manitoba and we would like to object to the expansion of the broiler operation being considered under file number TRC 12-102. Niverville is negatively affected by farming operations that make the entire town smell like manure too often as it is. A 47% increase in operations will have an unreasonably negative effect on the quality of life for the residents of Niverville living a short distance from this farm.

Regards,
Adam

From: Brad Shaw [REDACTED]
Sent: March 30, 2024 3:22 PM
To: +WPG139 - TRC
Subject: TRC 12-102

Hello,

As a resident of Niverville I would like to voice my opposition to TRC 12-102. Having grown up on a farm, I understand that some unpleasant smells can be associated with agriculture and can accept that. However, in a very short distance from the town of Niverville you can currently find MULTIPLE barn sites which cause many days during a typical month that being outside is unbearable. Raising the number of birds at this location can only make matters worse and will definitely affect a positive living experience in our near by town. A barn of this size does not need to be that close to a growing community that is currently trying to annex land which would literally be within a mile of the land being proposed for expansion. I understand a farmer has a right to make a living but when one mans living makes a whole towns day to day experience less enjoyable, I don't feel its right. Thank you.

Brad Shaw

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: April 28, 2024 10:36 PM
To: +WPG139 - TRC
Subject: TRC 12-102

To whom it may concern,

I am opposed to the expansion of a broiler operation, Midwest Poultry Ltd. (TRC 12- 102) in the R.M. of Ritchot.

Manitoba has been facing drought-like conditions for many years now, and poultry farms require substantial amounts of water to operate. The strain on the water table will be significant if Manitoba allows the addition of 32000 more hens to be farmed at Midwest Poultry.

More hens will also increase the impact on air quality in the surrounding areas near the farm. Residents of Ritchot already complain of the unpleasant smells coming from the nearby concentrated animal feeding operations. Allowing more hens further diminishes the air quality in the region.

The carbon footprint of raising 32000 hens is counter intuitive given the current climate crisis we are facing. Industries should be moving towards more plant-based, environmentally friendly farming practices instead of doubling down on what has been proven to be detrimental to the health and biodiversity of the surrounding environment.

I vehemently oppose this initiative and strongly urge the Livestock Technical Review Committee to deny this proposal for expansion by Midwest Poultry Ltd. (TRC 12- 102).

Thank you,

David Mendez Resident of Ritchot

From: Jarrett [REDACTED]
Sent: April 3, 2024 9:27 AM
To: +WPG139 - TRC
Subject: TRC 12-102

To whom it may concern,

I'm replying to the notice I received in the mail, TRC 12-102 and the proposed expansion to the local poultry farm.

It's no secret that Niverville is one of the fastest growing communities in Manitoba, since I've been here it has grown beyond what I thought was possible. Also, since I moved here I expected farm smells to come in once in a while, having a sheep farm within 100yds of my property it is to be expected at the minimum. But the smells (poultry particularly) are on some days to the point where you can't open a window, you can't enjoy the summer, you can't go in your backyard etc.

Manure is one thing, it is tolerable, and when the local farmers are spreading it is strong, but still okay, chicken waste is on another level, the ammonia smell from poultry is intolerable so for there to be a possibility of having MORE of that smell in the future seems dire. Nearly doubling the population of animals of a farm that is NE of Niverville by about three miles (judging by the grid map provided in the notice) is to me out of the question.

I want Niverville to continue to grow, and continue to evolve into a future where I can go outside on any given day and enjoy it, not go outside and fall on my ass because the smell hit me in the face so hard.

That is my two cents on this matter.

Kind regards,

Jarrett

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: March 30, 2024 5:35 PM
To: +WPG139 - TRC
Subject: TRC12-102

I object as this proposal is of a scale that is too close to residential areas.

M. Singh



Niverville

WHERE YOU BELONG

April 4, 2024

Mayor

Myron Dyck

Technical Review Co-ordination Unit
Municipal and Northern Relations
604-800 Portage Avenue
Winnipeg, MB

R3G 0N4

Deputy Mayor

Chris Wiebe

Via Email: TRC@gov.mb.ca

RE: Midwest Poultry Ltd.

TRC12-102

Rural Municipality of Ritchot

Councillors

Nathan Dueck

Attention: Livestock Technical Review Committee

Bill Fast

Further to the Midwest Poultry Ltd. (TRC12-102) proposal to expand its operation at SE 05-08-04 EPM from 68,000 to 100,000 animals (340 to 500 Animal Units) in the Rural Municipality of Ritchot.

Meghan Beasant

The Town has reviewed the application details for TRC12-102 and advise that the separation distance to the nearest designated area (non-agricultural – Niverville) is 2,628 feet, not 8,200 feet as noted. This would require the applicant to apply for a variance order of 40% to allow for this separation distance.

CAO

Eric King

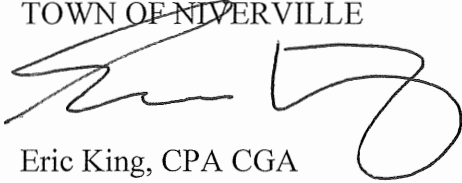
Also, Conditional Use application C25-2023 to increase the animal units from 300 to 400 originally approved in November 2023, was rescinded in December 2023, due to a TRC review being required. The current Conditional Use application C26-2023 notes the number of animal units to be increased from 340 units to 500 units, and clarification is required on whether the animal units increased from 300 to 340 prior to confirming approval.

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We ask that the Review Committee take this information into consideration when reviewing the application for its suitability.

If you have any questions, please contact the writer.

Sincerely,
TOWN OF NIVERVILLE

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric King", with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Eric King, CPA CGA
Chief Administrative Officer