

**TRI-VENTURE FARMS INC.
2022 FOUR MILE RD
NW-07-08-04-E**

Box 785 Niverville MB ROA 1E0
204 346-3030

Mun. RITCHOT Mun.
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JAN 11 2013

CHEQUE # _____
APPROVED _____

To Whom It May Concern;

In regards to the proposed livestock operation expansion of "**RED RIVER PULLET FARMS LTD.**", file: TRC-12-004.

I am writing this to express my greatest possible opposition to this proposal.

I am an independent hog farmer that has been operating in the municipality of Ritchot since 1992. My farm is a sow farrowing unit and as such has unique vulnerability to disease due to the fact that it is never emptied and refilled but rather operates on a continuous basis. Due to this, any disease or virus that was to enter the herd would have to be dealt with for the life of the farm.

In 1992 when I built this farm we worked together with our veterinarian to find a suitable site a mile and a half from any other hog facilities and a mile away from any other livestock.

The proposed site for this massive pullet farm is less than 1/4 of a mile from my hog farm. I use the word massive because my 1400 sow farrowing barn is 350 animal units and this 130,000 bird pullet farm is 429 animal units.

My veterinarian has informed me that my biggest risk is from the flu which is prevalent in poultry operations and could easily be spread from farm to farm over such a short distance. This would be devastating for my sow farm.

Not only am i extremely concerned for the future of my farm and my only source of income due to the threat of disease, i am also concerned about how this will affect my ability to expand my farm in the future. Past members of Ritchot municipal council have on more than one occasion expressed that there would be no way that I would be allowed to expand my farm in Ritchot, especially as all the land surrounding my farm is in the flood zone, including the proposed pullet farms site.

My question would be, if Ritchot has changed it's view of livestock facilities and are now not opposed to livestock facility expansion, how would the approval of this pullet facility affect my application in the future?

I realize that this is a stupid question because if this proposal is given permission to move forward, it would in effect make my farm of no value and no expansion would be possible due to the immense risk of disease given the close proximity of this pullet farm.

I am also extremely disappointed that i was not informed of this proposal, given the unbelievably close proximity to my farm and the immense impact it will have on my ability to make a living and also the value of my farm. Instead of being informed by anyone i had to read it in a newspaper.

My hope and request is that you can see how protecting an existing family farm, which i am the only shareholder of, is important enough not to allow a large multi shareholder corporation to move in and build in such a manner as to put others at risk.

I am definitely not opposed to livestock operations in general, as i own one and make my living from it and have 4 full time staff that earn their livings on my farm as well. I am only concerned about the extremely close location of this facility and expressed earlier in the year to Jake Doerksen when he informed me that they were considering this proposal, that if it were to be located more than 1 mile from my farm i would not oppose it. At that time he expressed that locating it at the north west corner of this section would put it a mile away and lessen my risk to disease transmission between the farms. I am, as a result of this conversation, very disappointed that they would try to sneak this proposal in without my knowledge.

Please protect my farm and **DECLINE** this proposal.

Al Pauls
Tri-Venture Farms