



March 12, 2024

Senate Environment, Climate, and Legacy Committee
Chair Senator Foug Hawj
Room 1150 Minnesota Senate Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

Chair Hawj and members of the committee,

The Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association (MSCA) respectfully submits the following written testimony on SF 4234 requiring an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for large animal projects. The MSCA represents around 1,000 members in the state of Minnesota.

Beef producers strive to ensure they leave the land better than they found it for future generations. They go above and beyond to protect the environment because it is crucial for their operations.

Minnesota beef feedlots over 1,000 animal units are regulated through Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's permitting process. This includes National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) and State Disposal System (SDS) permits.

The EIS was created with the intention of fact finding, but the EIS can be leveraged by organizations to increase the costs in order to discourage proposed projects, instead of finding legitimate facts about the project.

MSCA supports that the individual, group or organization filing a petition for an EIS be responsible for additional costs incurred by the EIS process.

We would respectfully oppose SF 4234 as it may hinder expansion in the state of Minnesota.

Thank you for your consideration.

Thank you,

Kaitlyn Root
Executive Director, Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association