



March 12, 2024

Senator Foug Hawj
3231 Minnesota Senate Building
95 University Avenue W.
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Hawj and members of the committee,

On behalf of the Minnesota Corn Growers Association's (MCGA) nearly 7,000 members I appreciate the opportunity to provide written comments on SF 4234.

MCGA members are committed to working with state and local government's during the proposal, design, and environmental impact evaluation phases of a project. Minnesota already has a robust environmental review process as well as specific requirements on feedlots starting at 300 or more animal units and additional requirements on feedlots with 1000 or more animal units. These requirements include a manure management plan, public notice, emergency disaster plans and engineered construction plans. The manure management plan gives livestock farmers the direction they need to apply manure nutrients in a way that reduces impacts to groundwater and delivers a high-quality alternative to commercial fertilizer for farmers to grow their crop. The existing permit process contains a framework for an Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) to be completed. Once a feedlot completes an EAW, the MPCA can evaluate and determine if additional study needs to happen and can at that point require an Environmental Impact Statement. We would respectfully oppose SF 4234 and would like to discuss with the author ways that we can improve review standards within the current framework.

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide written comments. If you have any questions please feel free to reach out to MCGA's Senior Public Policy Director Amanda Bilek at abilek@mncorn.org

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dana Allen-Tully".

Dana Allen-Tully
President
Minnesota Corn Growers Association