

Hand County Commissioners

RE: Proposed hog farm

First of all, I apologize for the bad language I used at the August hearing. It was not intended.

I am asking you again, Why do you want this facility in your neighborhood? L

1. There will be very little economic impact. The claim of jobs is true, but the turnover rate for employees at facilities such as this is very high. A 30% turnover rate means that every three years, the facility will have a totally new venue of employees. People don't move to a community for a job that lasts only one to three years. These are basically temporary jobs.

The facility proposed in Faulk county told community members that they would be importing workers from Aberdeen. From where are the workers coming from this facility?

What we saw in Milbank was a "Wow, super job" opportunity at first. I doubt very seriously that ANY of the initial employees are still employed there. Help wanted ads for Pipestone are not a rare occurrence.

There will not be one more bushel of corn or soybeans sold in the area. The feed will not be local, just as the contractors and construction materials; or, the veterinarian services.

2. Pipestone is not a good neighbor. In our neighborhood, they have two year old damaged culverts on a township road that have not been repaired. There is total disregard to DENR rules pertaining to manure pipe locations (on roads and in water and timing of manure applications—attached photo dated 9/19/19) and lack of respect for personal property (digging up driveways.)

3. The smell is horrendous. It's not every day, but I invite anyone in our yard when the wind is from the southwest. My husband gets headaches, and I head for the house. And one has to remember, that the air that they are expelling from the facility is poisonous: if it stayed in the barns, the pigs would die. That's the same air they are kicking out to you, their neighbors.

4. The nitrate pollution problem from the manure is well documented by various universities and ag groups, including the Iowa Soybean Association. (<https://www.iasoybeans.com/news/articles/can-cover-crops-reduce-the-risk-of-early-fall-manure-applications/>)

The nitrates will leach if proper measures aren't taken to prevent such actions. Manure application procedures exacerbate the issue including application in the fall without cover crop mitigation and application on overly wet ground.

5. Local property values. Yes the neighbors' property values will go down. Do you want to live next to one?

6. For some reason, local economic developers think these facilities are the cat's meow. They are not. One zoning officer who voted for 'ours' regrets it. His vote would have prevented Pipestone from ruining our neighborhood.

Yes, I biased; and I'll admit it. Pipestone has done nothing for our neighborhood or community, nor will the proposed facility.

Again, please do not permit this hog barn facility. It's not worth it.

Sincerely,

Kathy Tyler
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