

#10 - REQUEST FOR REVIEW: LA20014 / Granum Colony

Filed By:

**Logan Jensen**

Deadline for RFRs:

September 17, 2020

Date RFR received:

September 17, 2020

Status of party as per Decision Summary:

Not Directly Affected

**REQUEST FOR BOARD REVIEW**  
**SUBMITTED TO THE NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION BOARD**

<b>Application No:</b>	LA20014
<b>Name of Operator/Operation:</b>	Hutterian Brethren Church of Granum
<b>Type of application (<i>check one</i>):</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Approval</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Registration</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Authorization</b>
<b>Location (<i>legal land description</i>):</b>	SE 25-11-28 W4M
<b>Municipality:</b>	M.D. Willow Creek

I hereby request a Board Review of the Approval Officer's Decision and have the right to request a Board review because (*please review all options and check one*):

- I am the producer seeking the approval/registration/authorization.
- I represent the producer seeking the approval/registration/authorization.
- I represent the municipal government.
- I am listed as a directly affected party in the Approval Officer's Decision.
- I am not listed as a directly affected party in the Approval Officer's Decision and would like the Board to review my status.

**IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS**

1. You must meet the specified 10-day timeline; otherwise your request will not be considered.
2. Section 1 of this form must be completed only if you are requesting that the Board review your status as "not directly affected". Sections 2 to 5 must be completed by all applicants.
3. This form must be signed and dated before it is submitted to the Board for its review.
4. Be aware that Requests for Board Review are considered public documents. Your submitted request will be provided to all directly affected parties and will also be made available to members of the public upon request.
5. For more assistance, please call Laura Friend, Manager, Board Reviews at 403-297-8269.



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## 2. GROUNDS FOR REQUESTING A REVIEW

(ALL PARTIES MUST COMPLETE THIS SECTION)

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In order to approve an application, NRCB Approval Officers must ensure the requirements of AOPA have been met. Your grounds for requesting a Board review should identify any requirements or specific issues that you believe the Approval Officer failed to adequately address in the Decision.

### **My grounds for requesting a review of the Approval Officer's decision are as follows:**

I do not feel my voice has been heard. The process used allowed the agent of the applicants' the ability to rebut my concerns, which I feel is unfair, In addition since this application I have learned from others who live close to a similar chicken barn operation what it is like. If this application is granted there needs to be more safeguards in place to ensure the surrounding neighbours quality of life is not diminished and their water supply quality and quantity unchanged. I am concerned about the safety of the roads, inparticularlry at the intersection of Meadow Creek Road [TWP114] and Range Road 280, mere meters from the chicken barn. There are two school bus routes that travel the Meadow Creek road four times per day every school day. This intersection is where the Hutterian Brethren would cross to access their landholdings and colony to the south. As it is now this intersection is well known to be dangerous and there have been serious collisions in the past in this very spot. There would be high ammounts of of traffic travelling between the proposed chicked barn location and the current Hutterian Brethren Colony, Including large trucks and large slow moving machinery. It is also concerning thst this machinery will also be driven by young, inexperienced drivers. This intersection and surrounding roads will have decreased saftey for everyone. The dust created by the increased traffis is of great concern, from both of the school bus drivers and local rural residents. Reduced visability and the effects of dust on the the respiratory system will have its toll on thoes traveling that section of the Meadow Creek Road. The large chicken barn's stench will also affect the air quality not just for a few close by but for many miles to the north east, east and south east which includes the entire town of Claesholm, this in itself is unacceptable to put this type of facility upwind from and entire town. Furthermore there is a concern with the manure spreading that Claesholm Beef Producers has stockpiled manure on the field to the south of the feedlot. The road they cross is a real concern to both Hope Jensen and her students as well as others traveling that part of the road. this road has multiple spots where the road has been damaged creating dangerous bumps especialy when dust is present and visibility is poor. Although you may feel this comment is irrelevvent it is a direct example of problems that will occure and get worse than the current conditions. As we have stated in our concerns for the water systems this location with the specific situation of all the underground water, Creeks and runoff streams with the addition of hilly ground this is a poor location for such an operation and the risks are far to high. From what we have shared we believe we were not heard and the potentially dangerous out comes have not been considered and the Approval Officer failed to address our concerns regarding negative health or negative impacts. Therefore a board review is necessary.

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### 3. REASONS YOU ARE AFFECTED BY THE DECISION

(ALL PARTIES MUST COMPLETE THIS SECTION)

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In order to support your reasons for requesting a review, please explain how you believe you would be affected by the Approval Officer's decision.

**I believe that, as a result of the Approval Officer's decision, the following prejudice or damage will result:**

Myself and many residents travel past this location to get to Claresholm. At times the conditions are a concern and can be very poor as it is. Increased traffic of heavy trucks will deteriorate the roads further. With the current fiscal shortfall the rates payers of the M.D. of Willow Creek need to cover a \$1,000,000 loss this year. Adding a new bridge or any other infrastructure will also be detrimental to the area. This is not the time to be adding more stress to the already fragile infrastructure due to excessive traffic.

In the Approval Officer's risk assessment to the surface water and ground water she states "poses low potential risk to ground water and surface water" [page 3]. There is significant evidence that large amounts of flooding occur near the proposed location. In the area there are three drainage pipes that go into Willow Creek. At the intersection of Range Road 280 and Meadow Creek Road [TWP 114] you can see where the fence has been moved on an angle because of flooding. Hope Jensen has walked on the south portion of section 25 with the previous landowner and saw the buried drainage pipe that empties into the Meadow Creek water stream. When the next time excessive water runoff is present there is a high probability the chicken barn and manure storage will cause severe consequences related to water contamination, not to mention the inability for the chickens to be fed due to the flood waters. This will have very devastating effects. The Approval Officer also neglected to mention all the CFO's within a short distance from this chicken barn [LA20014] There are four big operations already, The pig barn, Morkin, Lozeman, and Claresholm Beef Producers and now this chicken barn, along with the proposed feedlot [LA20004] and another poultry barn [LA20024].

It does need to be noted that Meadow Creek is a seasonal creek and dries up and completely quits running during the summer of most summers, so accessing water for this operation is not feasible in this location.

From what we have shared we believe we were not heard and the Approval Officer failed to address our concerns regarding the negative environmental, health and economic impacts. Therefore a Board review is necessary.

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## 4. ACTION REQUESTED

(ALL PARTIES MUST COMPLETE THIS SECTION)

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I would like the Board to take the following actions with the respect to the Approval Officer's decision:

- Amend or vary the decision
- Reverse the decision

Please describe why you believe the Board should take this action:

I feel the process that was used was not fair. the process is piecemeal, when our concerns were shared many of them were marginalized, dismissed and or told that the NRCB does not handle that concern. It was only after the approval was granted did we learn some of our concerns needed to be addresses to a different department whithin the govornment which by then was too late. Therefore, a request for a review should be granted. The Hutterian Brethren are a large corporation that is going to operate at the expence of smaller landowners. Many of these landowners have been here for generations and we feel their concerns should be taken seriously. It is concerning that the Brethren intend to conctruct even more large scale CFO's in the area like LA20024. The lack of transparency with their long term intentions makes one wonder what other unforeseen consequences will arise.

If the Board decides to grant a review (*in the form of either a hearing or a written review*), all directly affected parties are eligible to participate. The Board may consider amending the Approval, Registration, or Authorization on any terms and conditions it deems appropriate. **Please note the Board cannot make any amendments unless it first decides to grant a review.**

If a review is granted by the Board, are there any new conditions, or amendments to existing conditions, that you would like the Board to consider? It is helpful if you identify how you believe your suggested conditions or amendments would address your concerns.

There needs to be a more thorough look into a more suitable location that would have less of an impact on the enviroment and with all the land the Brethren own im sure they already own such a propery that would not tax the already fragile infrastructure. There needs to be a water drilling report done in the area. This will appease those directly impacted by the chicken barn and set a bench mark regarding water usuage and quality in the area. In the event problems arise those living whithin the area the longest should be granted access to water first. As enviromental stewards of the land we feel this location selected would have an adverse effect on both infrasructure and the quality of life for thoes living along the Meadow Creek.

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## 5. CONTACT INFORMATION

(ALL PARTIES MUST COMPLETE THIS SECTION)

### Contact information of the person requesting the review:


Name: Logan Jensen

Address in Alberta: [REDACTED]  
Claresholm, Alberta, T0L 0T0

Legal Land Description: SW 27-11-28-W4M

Phone Number: [REDACTED] Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: [REDACTED]

Signature:  Date: Sept 17 2020

Please note that all sections of the form must be completed in order for your request to be considered. Also, if you do not meet the timeline identified, your request will not be considered. Form must be signed and dated before being submitted for Board consideration

### If you are, or will be, represented by another party, please provide their contact information (Note: If you are represented by legal counsel, correspondence from the Board will be directed to your counsel)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

#### When you have completed your request, please send it, with any supporting documents to:

Laura Friend, Manager, Board Reviews  
Natural Resources Conservation Board  
19<sup>th</sup> Floor Centennial Place  
250 – 5<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Calgary, AB T2P 0R4

Phone: 403-297-8269  
Email: [laura.friend@nrcb.ca](mailto:laura.friend@nrcb.ca)

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