

Today I'm writing to express my concerns for the poultry barn and manure storage area the Granum Hutterian Brethren propose to build, which I am not in any way in favor of.

For starters this particular location and any other location in the near vicinity is too close to several streams of water for any kind of manure storage and confined feeding operation. This in itself is unacceptable but also this area is very well known for flooding and major amounts of runoff this property has several low spots and drainage passages that run to neighbouring streams creeks and rivers , and anyone who has been in this area for a calendar year and has payed attention will have seen this for themselves just from driving the roads in the area and observing the large amounts of water runoff in the ditches this can particularly be seen in the ditches at the corner of this property of the Meadow Creek road and range road 280 from snow melt and rain throughout the year. This renders this a very poor location and would put the current water systems for livestock and households in jeopardy.

I find this completely absurd to approve of such an operation and what is next to follow in this location being only one half a mile upwind from a residence and also being upwind and only a few miles from the town of Claresholm which many residents in the town are worried about the smell and opposed to the approval of such a large odour producing operations, We all can relate to specific locations, residences or businesses that were long established and some type of operation or residential developments that start up or expand and have all to often negatively impacted them to the point where they are shutdown or forced to relocate often with a loss to there land value, which is most certainly uncalled for and unfair to the development or operation that was long there first. Any new operation, development or residential activity should have to be fully approved by whoever has occupied that area first.

This chicken barn just in its self will have a set amount of traffic but it will not stop there, next will be a hog barn etc. building its way up to being an entire colony which the roads in this area cannot handle. The roads in the area are in very poor as it is already and I would wager that there is not one resident who is happy with the condition of the roads so starting any large-scale operation is going to put major traffic on the roads at a level we have not seen before. One can say that is

the case no matter where you go and MD maintenance will have to be more frequent, but in this proposed and surrounding area the poor roads are largely due to the ground conditions which result from the large amount of underground and over ground water as previously mentioned, so how will we be able to keep the roads in at least the condition they are in now? That is going to take a lot of money, lots more never-ending maintenance and most likely would have to rip out the road completely and bring in large amounts of better base material and have it packed extensively and then resurfaced. I can tell you now that all of us currently in the area will be forever more paying for the increased maintenance services with our taxes just so one party can benefit and this is just the start of it. Once this operation has started it will expand exponentially in this area and these problems will be much bigger than when it started and in this day in age we as landowners do not have the profit margin and extra money to take on more taxes and costs of any kind. With this chicken barn and the additional operations that are yet to follow the volume of traffic and size of equipment and trucks that will be on the road due to this are non existent in this area, this is going to have a major impact on everyone in the area traveling to town for work daily and all other needs as there is very few routes to travel on in and out of this area.

Also the bridges in the area are not able to with stand the load of the traffic required to run this operation and the expansion of other operations they as well will have to be upgraded, once again further adding to the cost of our taxes.

The Granum Hutterian Brethren own a vast amount of land most of which is much better suited for this type of operation so there is no reason why they need to proceed in a risky location that is in close proximity to many fragile water systems, opposing landowners and being up wind from the town of Claresholm.

Many of us in the area including myself have bought property and remained in this area of poorer yielding crops and land so that we could stay away from the large operations, high traffic, premium land prices, and higher taxes. Starting an operation of this size goes against the reasons we enjoy this area and why many have come here. Which presents more issues such as the land value for smaller parcels and other acreages and parcels that are not desirable for purchase by the Granum Hutterian Brethren, the value of these propertys will go down due to it being undesirable and to no advantage to live here or operate a current ranch in

the area, Despite this every piece of property, big and small will have the taxes go up.

Lastly the fact that the Hutterian Brethren strategically initially placed an ad in the Fort Macleod Gazette and not our local paper for the previously proposed feedlot shows a lack of transparency and deceit with their proposed plans and makes one question, what unforeseen consequences will arise when this chicken barn and further operations are approved?

Sincerely,

Logan Jensen