

July 25, 2020

Attention NRCB and Carina Weisbach:

In regards to the application LA 20014 from the Granum Hutterite Colony to construct a 20000 chicken barn on the SE ¼ 25-11-28 W4.

My name is Allan Minor and I live a ¼ mile to the north east of this proposed chicken barn. I am totally opposed to this chicken barn or any other confined feeding operation at that location.

This chicken barn will be directly upwind of my home, as the wind blows out of the south west 250 days a year. We will have to continually deal with the stench of chicken shit. There are more than enough foul odours in the area from feedlots and hog barns already. Who in their right mind would even consider building a confined feeding operation such as this chicken barn in a rural area densely populated with homes? You don't see livestock packing plants built in the middle of suburbs in town! My family has owned this farm since 1909 over 110 year, so how is it at all fair that just because a large corporation that owns 1/3 of the MD of Willow Creek has the right to impose its will and negatively affect the lives and livelihood of the many area residents! The continuous stench from this chicken barn will negatively affect our physical and mental health as no one can be positive and enjoy their home and farm when dealing with such odours. The increased traffic from feed trucks and manure trucks as well as workers will dramatically increase the dust in the area causing respiratory problems for both our livestock and our families. Interesting how the new colony and their homes will be well to the west of these confined feeding operations where they will not have to deal with the increased traffic, the dust, the noise, and the stench!!

My family has had a grass runway since 1975 that is just east of this proposed poultry barn. The normal landing and departing traffic pattern will put aircraft right over this poultry barn at 1000 feet or less above ground level. The required separation for aircraft and poultry barns is 2000 feet above ground level, so just another reason this is a poor location for a poultry barn and a colony.

I will enclose a photo of our aircraft runway on the Alberta aviation council map.

This whole area along Meadow Creek is prone to flooding. It floods at least 7 years out of 10. The lands that drain into Meadow Creek to the west are steep, and with heavy rains and or a quick melt from heavy snow, can cause widespread flooding within a few hours. I have lived just to the east of this proposed poultry barn for 49 years and have had my basement and other out buildings flooded numerous times, so I can't understand why Granum Colony would want to build anything close to Meadow Creek and why the NRCB would even consider allowing it. When Meadow Creek floods it will take manure and other contaminants from these confined feeding operations and send it directly towards my farm contaminating my dugouts and also my water wells. There are a few poor to average water wells in the area ranging from 2-8 gallons per minute. The increased demands put on ground waters from all these CFO's and the proposed new Granum Colony will negatively affect local water well volumes and quality of the water.

Our property values will also be negatively affected as who in their right mind would buy land and a home just east of a poultry barn and a Hutterite colony. The area will be bombarded with excessive traffic, dust, flies and a terrible odour. Is the NRCB or the Alberta government going to guarantee me that if I want to sell my farm now or 50 years into the future I will receive fair market value? Not likely!!

Granum Colony owns more land than anyone else in the MD of Willow Creek, so build a colony at a more suitable location, not right beside a creek prone to flooding and not right beside so many homes. Granum Colony has purchased lands south and east of Stavely that are on the Stavely channel with water wells that will produce in excess of 150 gallons a minute, so build the colony there.

Thank you for your time.

Allan Minor

NW1/4 30-11-27 W4

Phone: [REDACTED]



These pictures are along Meadow Creek and the ditch just east and south of proposed chicken barn.

