

**[Note: This document was submitted as a rebuttal on November 6, 2023, to Laura Friend for the Board's RFR review of LA23003]**

NRCB

Attention: Cailyn Wilson

Re: Application LA 23003 - JD Feeders

July 25, 2023

We own the farmland NE 20-11-23 and NW 20-11-23. We are retired and rent it out. We own an acreage on SE 29-11-23. Our daughter and her husband own the acreage on the NE corner of 20-11-23.

We acknowledge the individual rights of farmers to work in the way they choose, but we also acknowledge the necessity of boards such as the NRCB that have been set up to regulate these rights – especially in regards to CFOs. We understand the need for a certain amount of expansion for today's farmers, but we also think it is good to have guidelines and limits as to how much expansion is done in each situation -- for a farmer to make a decent living in today's economy - without serious damage to the land and environment on which they live – as well as respecting the rights of neighbouring land holders.

We have lived here since 1971, and before that Clint's parents lived and farmed the half-section of 20-11-23 since 1936. So, we have a history of dryland grain farming for many decades in this area. We appreciate the fact that young farmers are settling in this area, and are making a living in the agricultural sector – even though it is quite different from the farming that we did. We have a few comments in regard to denBok feeders request to construct a CFO to the south of our properties.

Over the past many years there have been varying amounts of cattle being raised, grazed and fed on the property and pasture in question. It has been interesting to observe that since 2018 this location has had increasing amounts of cattle, calves and the subsequent manure, smells, sounds and traffic that accompany such a farm. The wear and tear and dust on the roads in this area have certainly increased when cattle, feed and manure are hauled in and out, but it does not affect us personally if their manure is hauled to the south and west of their property.

We are aware of the amount of water that is required to provide for large numbers of livestock in an area such as this where there are no natural sources of water. In the mid 1980s the farmers in this area with the help of the provincial government formed a water co-op (Keho West water users). They constructed a water line from the canal, installed a pump, and built dugouts, to provide water to a number of farms. To date, this amount of water has been sufficient for yards, homes, horses, and even some cattle; however we are not sure this water line was designed to provide the amount of water required for a CFO of 1000-3000 head of cattle and calves. (Is there a formula that is used to determine the amount of water needed per head of cattle/calves over a specific amount of time?)

To summarize, we like the fact that young farmers are staying and working on the land. Josh and Deb denBok are a fine, hard-working family. However, to be honest, we do not like the idea of bigger and bigger confined feeding operations.

Thank you,

Clint and Sharon Vander Woude

[REDACTED]