

May 7, 2024 (received May 8, 2024 L.Friend)

To: Interested Parties

NRCB Notice

We are writing in regards to Application RA24001, Ference Land & Cattle Corp. We would like to address the list of concerns that have been stated in the proposed appeal (RFR from Kevin Clark).

We are unaware of who made the complaint in 2016 and the steps that followed with NRCB. We understood at the time that the original feed yard was grandfathered. This was approved and so that confined feeding space continued to operate. We did not take the proper course of action when adding pen space in 2016. In 2022 we began planning our feedlot renovation and we were able to begin construction in 2023. All of the renovation, planning measures and construction were designed to improve the grandfathered facility and ensure that all of the pen space would not cause any current or future issues. We worked with NRCB to rectify any issues, make sure that our plans were sound and complete proper soil testing, water testing and drainage. We will continue to work with NRCB to ensure that our CFO meets all required standards and protocol.

Not all of the feeder cattle referenced in the letter from Mr. Clark are fed at this location. We have feeder cattle at custom feedyards.

In regards to the water and soil testing, this is protocol that has been done at this location for many years. It is in our best interest to confirm that our water is tested regularly for human and animal consumption. Soil sampling on our land is done annually and monitored by our agronomists to guarantee that our soils are healthy and fit for planting.

In regards to drainage the west culvert - it drains into the ditch and then further to a slough on the south side of the road on our land. This can be seen in the attached photo. The east culvert that is across from Clark Farms grassland can be seen in the second photo. It clearly shows healthy vegetation surrounding the

culvert indicating that the levels of Phosphorous are not detrimental or toxic. Nothing at our CFO slopes toward that culvert. All of the drainage is to the west holding ponds.

We have taken the best steps and corrective actions to update and improve our facility. This is evident in the approval of our application with NRCB. To conclude, we have been tentative and worked closely with NRCB to make improvements to our CFO. We have completed all of the requirements and know that the future is healthy and proactive with proper measures in place.

Sincerely,

Craig Ference

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Crop

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