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Croton Layer 4 Draft Permit to Operate Renewal

General overview of the farm

Croton Layer 4 is an existing poultry facility located at 11492 Wesley Chapel Road, Croton, Ohio 43013. It is situated in Licking County, Hartford Township, in the Licking River Watershed. The facility is owned by Ohio Fresh Eggs, LLC and operated by Trillium Farm Holdings, LLC and Versova Holdings, LLC. The facility consists of 16 layer barns that provide a total design capacity of 2,314,384 layers. Each of these layer barns have a belt battery manure handling system, where the manure is transported out of the barns on a regular frequency and stored in separate manure storage barns. At this facility, there are two manure storage barns that are capable of storing 629,000 cubic feet of solid manure each, which provides approximately 241 days of storage. This facility also has an egg processing operation that generates liquid eggwash effluent that is stored in a two cell earthen pond system with a total storage capacity of 2.58 million gallons of storage combined, or approximately 282 days. If approved, this Permit to Operate renewal application would be valid for a five year period.

General overview of the draft Permit to Operate

Within the draft Permit to Operate (PTO), a manure management plan is provided which outlines different inspections and monitoring activities that must be completed. Each year, approximately 31,433 tons of poultry manure will be generated by the facility. All of the solid manure will be distributed off the farm to manure brokers and crop producers that will utilize the manure as a replacement for commercial fertilizers. Also, approximately 4.44 million gallons of liquid eggwash effluent/truckwash will be generated and land applied to land under the control of the facility annually. Approximately 155 acres (37 acres under center pivot irrigation) are designated for the application of this liquid on a corn-soybean rotation.

A detailed Insect and Rodent Control Plan is required to minimize the presence and negative effects of insects and rodents. The plan details which types of pests could potentially cause problems and how the facility will prevent those problems from occurring. The plan explains what preventative measures and treatments are available and how and when they might be employed. Details regarding the Insect and Rodent Control Plan can be found in the draft PTO.

A Mortality Management Plan is required for the disposal of dead livestock. Approved methods of disposal are burying, landfilling, burning, rendering and composting. Trillium Farms will continue using rendering and composting as the two primary methods to manage mortality losses.

An Emergency Response Plan is required to ensure that emergencies are handled quickly and efficiently to maintain the safety of the environment, wildlife and water supplies and resources. The plan also identifies procedures to be followed during an emergency, such as a spill or discharge, as well as contact information for those who would need to be notified in the event of an emergency.

Finally, an Operating Record is included that provides all forms and information that must be maintained by the facility to show compliance with ODA's rules and the permit. These records document inspection of the manure storage structures, groundwater sampling, manure characterization, land application, insect and rodent control, distribution and utilization of manure, and mortality management. The facility and its records will continue to be regularly inspected by the ODA to ensure compliance.

