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Meerland Dairy LLC
Draft Permit to Install and Draft Permit to Operate

Overview of the farm

“Meerland Dairy LLC” is the name of an existing dairy facility located at 16039 Pleasantview Road, South Solon, Ohio 43153. The facility site is situated in Fayette County, in Jefferson Township, which is in the Paint Creek Watershed. The facility is owned and operated by Meerland Dairy LLC.

Overview of the draft Permit to Install

The draft Permit to Install (PTI) proposes to construct a new freestall barn west of the existing barns to house an additional 428 head. The new freestall barn would be located on the Greene County side of the county line. The proposed construction would increase the facility’s total design capacity to 2,500 dairy cows. The draft PTI proposes no other construction. After the proposed increase in animal numbers, the three existing manure ponds would continue to provide 26,740,000 gallons of liquid manure storage or about 324 days’ worth of storage capacity.

Overview of the draft Permit to Operate

The draft Permit to Operate (PTO) includes a detailed manure management plan which outlines inspections and monitoring that must be completed. Each year, the facility would generate an estimated 30 million gallons of liquid manure, which would include collected storm water runoff. The liquid manure would be distributed to, and utilized by, neighboring farmers to recycle the nutrients on productive crop land as an organic alternative to commercial synthetic fertilizers. The manure would be applied by a Certified Livestock Manager, who would be required to follow ODA rules governing manure applications and whose records would be inspected by ODA.

An Insect and Rodent Control Plan is included to minimize the presence and negative effects of insects and rodents. The facility performs daily inspections throughout the facility for flies and rodents. These inspection results are used to determine if the facility is required to perform treatment for insect or rodents based on the criteria set forth in the permit.

A Mortality Management Plan is required for the disposal of dead livestock. Approved methods of disposal are burying, landfilling, burning, rendering and composting. The facility proposes to continue utilizing transport to a sanitary landfill as the primary method for managing and disposing of 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.

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, insect and rodent control, distribution and utilization of manure, and mortality management. The facility and its records are inspected by ODA to ensure compliance. -End-

