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LDT Keller Farms, LLC
Draft Permit to Operate Renewal

General overview of the farm

LDT Keller Farms, LLC is an existing dairy located at 841 Burkettsville-St. Henry Road in Ft. Recovery, Ohio which is in Mercer County, Granville Township, situated in the Upper Wabash Watershed. The farm is owned and operated by LDT Keller Farms, LLC. This draft permit is a renewal of the existing PTO and does not include any expansion of animals or manure storage. It would be valid for a period of 5 years, at which time it would have to be renewed.

The existing dairy has a permitted design capacity of 1,030 mature dairy cows and 587 heifers. Manure storage at the facility consists of two solid manure storage structures capable of storing approximately 134,000 cubic feet, which provides about 240 days of storage for solids. The liquid manure is stored in either a 4.4 million gallon concrete tank or a 9.8 million gallon manure storage pond. Combined, these two liquid storage structures provide approximately 380 days of storage.

Overview of Draft Permit to Operate

Within the draft Permit to Operate (PTO), a complete manure management plan is provided, which outlines inspections and monitoring that must be completed by the facility. The estimated annual manure production for the facility is 13.4 million gallons of liquid manure from the cows, milking center wastewater and contaminated runoff that is collected. In addition, approximately 5,942 tons of solid manure would be generated annually, consisting of manure from the dry cows, heifers and other young stock housed at the dairy. LDT Keller Farms has approximately 1,170 acres of crop land available for the land application of the manure. Crops grown on these acres include corn (grain and silage), wheat, soybeans, alfalfa, ryelage and sudex.

An Insect and Rodent Control Plan is included to minimize the presence and negative effects of insects and rodents. The facility performs daily and weekly 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 disposal of dead livestock. Approved methods of disposal are burying, landfilling, burning, rendering and composting. LDT Keller Farms will continue to utilize rendering and landfilling as their methods of mortality disposal.

An Emergency Response Plan is required to ensure accidents or emergencies are handled quickly and efficiently to maintain the safety of the environment, wildlife and water supplies. In case of an emergency or accident, the names and phone numbers of contact personnel and equipment are listed.

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 include inspection of the manure storage structures, manure characterization, land application, insect and rodent control, distribution and utilization of manure, and mortality management. The facility and these records are inspected by the Ohio Department of Agriculture to ensure compliance.

