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MVP Dairy Draft Permit to Install and Draft Permit to Operate

General overview of the farm

MVP Dairy is a proposed dairy farm that would be located at 7124 U.S. 33, Celina, Ohio 45822. It would be situated in Mercer County, Center Township in the St. Marys River watershed. The facility would be owned and operated by MVP Dairy, LLC. If approved, the Permit to Install (PTI) would have a life of 2 years, at which time an extension could be requested if construction was not complete. The Permit to Operate (PTO) would have a life of 5 years, at which time a permit renewal would need to be submitted for review and public noticed.

General overview of the draft Permit to Install

The draft Permit to Install (PTI) proposes to construct six new freestall barns to house 750 mature dairy cows each, which would be a proposed overall design capacity of 4,500 mature dairy cows. The draft PTI also proposes to construct a series of storage and treatment components for the manure that will be generated at the facility. Initially, the manure will be flushed from the freestall barns and enter a sand lane system that will reclaim a majority of the sand bedding for reuse. After exiting the sand lane system, the manure will be pumped to a screen separator, where approximately 30% of the solids will be separated. These separated solids are proposed to be stacked on a solids storage pad with a capacity of 330,000 cubic feet of storage, or approximately 201 days. From the solid separator, the manure is pumped into one of two earthen settling basins. These basins will store slurry manure and will each have a storage capacity of 6.8 million gallons, or approximately 6 months each. From the settling basins, the manure would gravity flow into an anaerobic treatment lagoon for additional treatment and bacterial breakdown of the remaining effluent. The lagoon would have a total treatment capacity of 31.5 million gallons for odor control/minimum treatment volume and predicted sludge volume accumulation. From the anaerobic treatment lagoon, the remaining liquid stream of manure would gravity flow into the final irrigation pond with a storage volume of approximately 26.1 million gallons, or approximately 344 days. Lastly, a silage runoff pond with a capacity of 4.1 million gallons is proposed that would collect only contaminated runoff from the feed storage area of the facility, which is required to be collected and land applied.

General overview of the draft Permit to Operate

Within the draft PTO, a complete manure management plan is provided which outlines inspections and monitoring activities that must be completed. The estimated annual separated solid manure production is 16,800 tons. The estimated annual amount of slurry manure from the settling basins is 13.6 million gallons, with another 32.0 million gallons to be irrigated out of the final irrigation pond and silage runoff pond. All of the manure generated at the facility would initially be land applied under the control of MVP Dairy. Within the plan, a little over 600 acres will be under center pivot irrigation systems that will utilize the manure nutrients from the irrigation pond during the growing season, as well as any necessary slurry manure that would be needed for the planned double crop rotation of corn silage and rye grass silage. The rye will be planted following the corn silage harvest and then harvested as ryalage in the spring. The facility also has approximately another 3,150 acres available for the majority of the slurry manure and separated solids. These non-irrigated acres would have corn grown for either silage or grain.



The dairy also anticipates working with other surrounding crop farmers that may wish to utilize the manure nutrients as a supplement to commercial fertilizers when it becomes fully operational.

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. The facility proposes to use a licensed rendering service as the primary method for managing 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 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 would be regularly inspected by the ODA to ensure compliance.

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