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Schoonover's Hill Top Farm
Draft Permit to Install and Draft Permit to Operate

General overview of the farm

“Schoonover’s Hill Top Farm” is a proposed broiler facility located at 419 Township Road 1150, Ashland, Ohio 44805. The facility site is situated in Ashland County, in Perry Township, which is in the Mohican Watershed. The facility would be owned and operated by Doug and Bernadine Schoonover.

General overview of the draft Permit to Install

The draft Permit to Install (PTI) proposes to construct 3 broiler barns with a design capacity of 55,000 birds each, for a total design capacity of 165,000 broilers. The draft PTI also proposes to construct a 50’ x 80’ Solid Manure Storage Barn and a 12’ x 30’ compost barn. The proposed broiler facility would produce an estimated 1,646 tons of solid manure annually. Each broiler barn would have the capacity to store about 53 days’ worth of manure. The proposed manure storage barn could hold 42,231 cubic feet of manure, which would provide another 172 days’ worth of storage. The compost barn would be used to manage and store the anticipated mortality losses from the operation, providing over a year’s worth of compost storage.

General overview of the 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 and how manure will be managed. Each year about 167 tons of the solid manure and all 35 tons of compost material generated by the facility will be land applied under the control of the facility onto 65 acres of crop land in a soybean and corn grain rotation. The remaining 1,479 tons of solid manure generated each year will be distributed off site to be utilized by crop farmers to recycle the nutrients as an organic alternative to commercial synthetic fertilizers.

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 use composting 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-

