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## **Sugar Lane Dairy, LLC** **Draft Permit to Operate**

### ***General overview of the farm***

The facility known as Sugar Lane Dairy, LLC is located in Van Wert County, Tully Township, at 5624 Elm Sugar Road, Convoy, Ohio in the Auglaize River watershed. The facility is owned and operated by Sugar Lane Dairy, LLC. The dairy has a permitted design capacity of 2,000 mature dairy cows housed in four freestall barns. There are two existing manure storage ponds, a storm water pond, and three concrete basins with a combined storage capacity of 24.6 million gallons that provide well over one year's worth of total storage for liquid manure and captured storm water. A sand lane system is used to recycle bedding material and a solids separation system is used to further separate the liquid and solid fractions of the manure. The facility has the capacity to store up to 161,000 cubic feet of recycled sand bedding and separated solids material.

### ***Overview of Draft Permit to Operate***

Within the draft Permit to Operate (PTO) renewal, a complete manure management plan is provided which outlines inspections and monitoring that must be completed by the facility. At the maximum design capacity, the facility will generate an estimated 18.71 million gallons annually of manure, milking center wash water, and captured storm water rainfall & runoff. The liquid manure will be distributed to and utilized by area crop farmers on 4,400 acres of available crop land to recycle nutrients as a replacement for imported commercial synthetic fertilizers. The planned crops for these acres include corn silage, corn grain, popcorn, and soybeans.

An Insect and Rodent Control Plan is included to minimize the presence and negative effects of insects and rodents.

A Mortality Management Plan is required for proper disposal of dead livestock. Approved methods of disposal are burying, landfilling, burning, rendering and composting. Sugar Lane Dairy, LLC plans to continue utilizing a licensed rendering service as the primary method to manage mortality losses.

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.

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, 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.

