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ODA TO HOLD OPEN HOUSE AND PUBLIC MEETING ON DRAFT PERMITS FOR HAPPY YOLKS, LLC

REYNOLDSBURG, Ohio (Nov. 3, 2016) – The Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) will hold an open house and public meeting on December 7, 2016, on the draft Permit to Operate (PTO) and draft Permit to Install (PTI) for Happy Yolks, LLC. The open house will be held from 6:30 to 7:00 p.m. followed by the public meeting at the Allen County Fairgrounds, Youth Activities Building at 2750 Harding Highway, Lima, Ohio 45804.

The department will provide an opportunity for recording public comments concerning the draft permits. Oral comments can be made in person and on the record at the public meeting. Written comments must be received by ODA no later than 5:00 p.m. on December 14. Comments must be delivered or mailed to the ODA Division of Livestock Environmental Permitting (DLEP), 8995 East Main Street, Reynoldsburg, OH 43068. Comments received after December 14 will not be considered by the Director before making a determination on the permit.

The draft permits can be reviewed and/or copies made at the Division of Livestock Environmental Permitting (DLEP) office at: A.B. Graham Building, 8995 East Main Street, Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068.

Happy Yolks proposes a poultry facility that would be located at 3631 Lawrence Road, Harrod, Ohio 45850. It would be owned by Ruth Farms, LLC and operated by Happy Yolks, LLC and situated in the Auglaize Watershed.

The draft PTI proposes to construct two new layer barns, each capable of housing 200,000 layers, for a total design capacity of 400,000 layers. Each barn would have belts under the cages that would transport the solid manure to a separate manure storage barn on a daily basis. The manure storage barn would be capable of storing approximately 199,481 cubic feet of manure, which will provide about 379 days of manure storage.

Each year, approximately 4,166 tons of poultry manure would be generated by the facility. About 1,735 tons of the solid manure would be applied to 1,782 acres that Happy Yolks, LLC owns or has control over. These acres are typically under a corn, wheat and soybean cropping rotation. The remaining 2,431 tons would be distributed off the farm to manure brokers and crop producers that will utilize the manure as a replacement for commercial fertilizers.

The draft PTO includes plans to manage manure nutrients, prevent and control insect and rodent problems, handle emergency situations, and properly dispose of mortality losses. The PTO also includes an Operating Record that provides the forms and information that must be maintained by the facility to comply with ODA rules and the permit.

