

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Ohio Department of Agriculture Issues
Final Permit to Operate for A.J. Evers and Sons

REYNOLDSBURG, Ohio (March 25, 2010) – The Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) today issued a final Permit to Operate (PTO) for A. J. Evers and Sons located in Mercer County, Marion Township, at 1105 Goettemoeller Road, Maria Stein, Ohio. The facility, which is in the Upper Great Miami watershed, is owned and operated by Gene and Sharon Evers and Ricky and Brenda Evers.

The poultry farm has a maximum design capacity of 108,500 laying hens.

A. J. Evers and Sons' final Permit to Operate is for the entire facility. This permit, which is drafted to regulate operations with plans for manure management, insect and rodent control, mortality management and emergency response, is valid for a five-year period, at which time the owners will be required to renew the operating permit.

The A. J. Evers and Sons final Permit to Operate can be appealed to the Environmental Review Appeals Commission (ERAC) at 309 South Fourth Street, Room 222, in Columbus, Ohio 43215. The appeal period ends at 5:00 p.m. on April 26, 2010. A copy of the appeal must be served on the Director of Agriculture within three days after filing the appeal with ERAC.

- 30 -

Media Contact: Bill Schwaderer, Livestock Environmental Permitting Program, 614-387-0914