



Governor Ted Strickland
Lieutenant Governor Lee Fisher
Director Robert J. Boggs

Livestock Environmental Permitting Program
A.B Graham Building
8995 East Main Street, Reynoldsburg, OH 43068
Phone: 614-387-0470 • Fax: 614-728-6335
www.agri.ohio.gov • lepp@agri.ohio.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ODA Accepting Public Comments **On Catalpadale Dairy Ltd Draft Permits**

REYNOLDSBURG, Ohio (Nov. 4, 2009) – The Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) is accepting public comments on a draft Permit to Install (PTI) and draft Permit to Operate (PTO) for Catalpadale Dairy Ltd located in Wayne County at 14981 Fox Lake Road in Marshallville, Ohio. The Baughman Township farm is in the Tuscarawas River Watershed.

Owned by Catalpadale Dairy Ltd and operated by John Douglass, the facility was issued a Review Compliance Certificate by the department in 2004 to operate for a period of five years, after which time it was required to apply for a Permit to Operate.

Draft Permit to Install

Catalpadale Dairy Ltd. has also applied for draft Permit to Install to expand its existing design capacity by adding one freestall barn that is capable of housing 400 mature dairy cows. In addition, another 170 mature cows will be accommodated in the existing freestall housing barns. This would bring the total permitted design capacity to 2,170 mature dairy cows and approximately 600 young stock or heifers. No additional manure storage will be constructed under this permit since the existing manure storage volume available at the facility will be able to store the additional manure.

Draft Permit to Operate

The draft Permit to Operate is required to describe the daily operations and maintenance of the facility and is valid for a five-year period, at which time it must be renewed. The current operation manages five manure storage ponds and three concrete manure storage pits. These structures provide for approximately 11.8 million gallons of combined storage. With approximately 22.2 million gallons expected to be produced annually, the existing manure storage structures provide for 195 days of liquid storage.

Catalpadale Dairy Ltd. utilizes this manure as a replacement for commercial fertilizer on surrounding cropland that they control. The facility manages approximately 1,460 acres of cropland, utilizing a corn silage/alfalfa hay rotation. Within this draft Permit to Operate, a complete Manure Management Plan is provided that demonstrates the effective and responsible use of the nutrients contained in the manure.

An Insect and Rodent Control Plan is required to minimize the presence and negative effects of insects and rodents. A Mortality Management Plan is required for the disposal of dead livestock. Approved methods are burying, burning, rendering and composting and Catalpadale Dairy Ltd



utilizes a rendering service as their method of disposal. An Emergency Response Plan is required to ensure that accidents or emergencies are handled quickly and efficiently to maintain the safety of the environment, wildlife and water supplies and resources.

Finally, an Operating Record is contained in the draft Permit to Operate that includes 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, groundwater monitoring, manure characterization, land application, insect and rodent control, distribution and utilization of manure, and mortality management. These records are inspected by the department a minimum of twice annually.

Submitting public comments

Any person may submit written comments on the Catalpadale Dairy Ltd draft permits and/or request a public meeting, which must be in writing. Where there is significant public interest, the director will hold a public meeting. Written comments and/or public meeting requests must be hand-delivered or mailed to the ODA Livestock Environmental Permitting Program (LEPP) at 8995 East Main St., Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068 no later than 5 p.m. on Dec. 4, 2009. Comments and/or public meeting requests received after this date will not be considered by the director before issuing the final permits.

Copies of the draft Permit to Install and draft Permit to Operate for Catalpadale Dairy Ltd may be reviewed or copies made at the ODA LEPP office. The permits can also be viewed at the Wayne Soil and Water Conversation District Office, 428 West Liberty Street, in Wooster. Those interested should call the SWCD office at (330) 262-2836 and make an appointment. Written comments cannot be submitted to the Wayne SWCD office.

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

