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## **Highslip Pork** **Draft Permit to Operate Renewal**

Highslip Pork is located in Hardin County, Cessna Township, at 7665 TR 105, Kenton, Ohio 43326 in the Blanchard River Watershed. The facility is owned and operated by Craig Geberin.

This draft Permit to Operate (PTO) is a renewal application for the expiring PTO that was issued by the Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) in 2011 and was valid for five years. This PTO would also be valid for a five-year period, at which time the owner would be required to apply for renewal.

The existing facility has four 1,050 head finishing barns, with a total combined design capacity of 4,200 hogs weighing more than 55 lbs. Each of the finishing barns has a concrete tank beneath it to store the manure. The facility records show an average of about 1.5 million gallons of manure produced annually by the facility. The existing concrete tanks under the buildings provide a combined 1.7 million gallons of storage capacity, which would be more than 413 days of storage. Highslip Pork also produces about 5 tons of mortality compost, which is stored in a 7,334 ft<sup>3</sup> mortality compost barn. This barn provides more than a year of storage for the compost.

Highslip Pork plans on applying the 1.5 million gallons of liquid manure and 5 tons of compost generated by the facility each year to 910 acres of crop land in accordance with ODA rules. The land application of manure will recycle organic nutrients to satisfy the crop nutrient requirements. The application fields have been soil tested, and a summarized nutrient budget is included in the permit for these acres. The planned crop rotation is corn and soybeans. Additional details can be found in the Manure Management Plan of the draft PTO.

Additionally 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. Highslip Pork utilizes composting as their method of disposal.

An Emergency Response Plan is also required to ensure that accidents or emergencies are handled quickly and efficiently to maintain the safety of the environment, including wildlife, 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/treatment structures, groundwater testing, manure characterization, land application, insect and rodent control and mortality management. These records are regularly inspected by the department to assure compliance with the rules.

