

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Ohio Department of Agriculture Issues
Final Permit to Operate for RNW Farm, LLC

REYNOLDSBURG, Ohio (Sept. 24, 2009) – The Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) on Tuesday, Sept. 22, issued a final Permit to Operate (PTO) for RNW Farm, LLC at 710A Apel Road in Franklin Furnace, Ohio. The Scioto County farm is in Green Township situated in the Little Scioto River Watershed. The layer facility is owned by RNW Farms, LLC and operated by PCF Poultry, LLC, both located at 9100 Smucker Road in Smithville, Ohio.

The existing facility has a design capacity of 450,000 layers, which will remain the same under the final PTO. Barn #3 is capable of housing 82,500 layers, barn #4 can house 84,752 layers and barns #5 and #6 can house 122,500 layers. However, with the current United Egg Producers cage space requirements, the facility generally only houses up to 307,000 layers at one time at the facility.

RNW Farms, LLC was issued a Review Compliance Certificate (RCC) by the department in 2004 to operate for a period of five years, after which time the facility was required to apply for a PTO renewal. The Permit to Operate would also be valid for a five-year period at which time the farm owner will be required to apply for a renewal.

The PTO is drafted to regulate facility operations with plans for manure management, insect and rodent control, mortality management and emergency response.

The RNW Farm, LLC final Permit to Operate can be appealed to the Environmental Review Appeals Commission (ERAC), 309 South Fourth Street, Room 222, Columbus, Ohio 43215. The appeal period ends at 5:00 p.m. on Oct. 30, 2009. A copy of the appeal must be served on the Director of Agriculture within three days after filing the appeal with ERAC.

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