

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Ohio Department of Agriculture Issues
Final Permits for Stardust Dairy, LLC

REYNOLDSBURG, Ohio (Oct. 21, 2009) – The Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) today issued a final Permit to Install (PTI) and final Permit to Operate (PTO) for the Stardust Dairy, LLC located Stardust Dairy, LLC located on the Madison County (Range Township) and Fayette County (Paint Township) line at 14997 Charleston-Chillicothe Road in South Solon, Ohio. The farm, which is in the Paint Creek Basin Watershed, is owned by Stardust Dairy, LLC and operated by Frank VanGenugten.

The dairy currently has a design capacity of 2,000 mature dairy cows. Expansion of a permitted facility to 10% or more of its design capacity for animals or manure storage requires the owner to obtain permits from the department. These permits authorize expansion of the existing facility to a final design capacity of 4,047 mature dairy cows.

The Stardust Dairy, LLC final Permit to Install includes construction of two new freestall barns to house the additional 2,047 mature dairy cows.

The final Permit to Operate is for the entire farm. It is drafted to regulate operations with plans for manure management, insect and rodent control, mortality management, and emergency response. The PTO would be valid for a five-year period, at which time the owner would be required to renew the operating permit.

The Stardust Dairy, LLC final Permit to Install and 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 Nov. 23, 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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