

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Ohio Department of Agriculture Issues**  
**Final Permit to Operate for Veitch Farms**

REYNOLDSBURG, Ohio (Aug. 24, 2009) – The Ohio Department of Agriculture today issued Veitch Farms at 3105 S.R. 121 South in Greenville, Ohio, a final Permit to Operate (PTO) for the entire farm. Owned and operated by Erik and Madonna Veitch at the same address, the Darke County farm is in Neave Township, which is in the Upper Great Miami River Watershed.

Veitch Farms is an existing nursery pig facility that previously was not required to apply for a Review Compliance Certificate (RCC) from the department because swine weighing less than 55 lbs were not regulated. A change in federal statute now requires facilities to obtain a PTO if the design capacity exceeds 10,000 swine weighing less than 55 lbs.

Since the farm has a design capacity of 12,000 pigs weighing less than 55 lbs, the same design number it had prior to applying for the permit, it is required to obtain a PTO from the Ohio Department of Agriculture. The PTO is drafted to regulate operations with plans for manure management, insect and rodent control, mortality management and emergency response. This permit is valid for a five-year period, at which time the owner is required to renew the operating permit.

The Veitch Farms 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 September 25, 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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