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## **Andreas Farms, Inc.** **Draft Permit to Operate**

Andreas Farms, Inc. is located in Tuscarawas County, Auburn Township, at 446 Ragersville Road SW in Sugar Creek, Ohio. The facility, which is owned by Andreas Farms, Inc., is in the Tuscarawas Watershed.

This draft Permit to Operate (PTO) is a renewal application for the Review Compliance Certificate that was issued by the Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) in 2004 and was valid for five years. The Permit to Operate would also be valid for a five-year period, at which time the owner would be required to apply for another renewal.

This existing farm has a design capacity of 1,210 mature dairy cows, which will remain the same under the draft Permit to Operate. The current operation manages three manure storage ponds with a total manure storage volume of 10.8 million gallons and a concrete pad that is used to store separate solids. The manure storage ponds provide a storage period of approximately 255 days. All contaminated runoff from the concrete pads and feed storage area is collected, stored in the ponds and land applied in accordance to the requirements for manure.

A comprehensive Manure Management Plan is included in the draft Permit to Operate that demonstrates the effective and responsible use of the nutrients contained in the manure. Andreas Farms, Inc. produces about 15.4 million gallons of liquid manure annually and utilizes this manure as a replacement for commercial fertilizer on surrounding cropland. The facility manages 929 acres of cropland, utilizing a rotation of corn silage, corn grain, wheat, grass and soybeans. About 10 percent of the liquid manure and 80 percent of the solid manure is sold or gifted to other farmers to use as a replacement for commercial fertilizer on their crop ground.

An Insect and Rodent Control plan is also required in the PTO 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 of disposal are burying, landfilling, burning, rendering and composting. Andreas Farms, Inc. utilizes on-site mortality composting for their calves and rendering for their cows 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, wildlife and water supplies and resources.

Finally, an Operating Record is contained in the draft PTO 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.



