

STATE OF MAINE
Department of Environmental Protection

JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI
GOVERNOR

David P. Littell
COMMISSIONER

Mr. Alfred Wren
Martin Stream Farm LLC.
Box 451 Files Hill Road
Thorndike, Maine 04986

January 12, 2009

RE: Maine Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (MEPDES) Permit #ME0036821
Maine Waste Discharge License (WDL) Application #W008243-5S-B-R
Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO)
Martin Stream Farm LLC
Final Permit/License

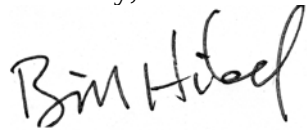
Dear Mr. Wren:

Enclosed please find a copy of your **final** MEPDES permit and Maine WDL which was approved by the Department of Environmental Protection. Please read the permit/license and its attached conditions carefully. You must follow the conditions in the order to satisfy the requirements of law. Any discharge not receiving adequate treatment is in violation of State Law and is subject to enforcement action.

Any interested person aggrieved by a Department determination made pursuant to applicable regulations, may appeal the decision following the procedures described in the attached DEP FACT SHEET entitled "*Appealing a Commissioner's Licensing Decision.*"

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please feel free to call me at 287-7693.

Sincerely,



for:

Gregg Wood
Division of Water Quality Management
Bureau of Land and Water Quality

Enc.

cc: James Sohns, DEP/EMRO Dennis Merrill, DEP/CMRO
Mark Hedrich, DAFRR Alan Hunter, DAFRR
Sandy Mojica, USEPA

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STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
17 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333

DEPARTMENT ORDER

IN THE MATTER OF

MARTIN STREAM FARM, LLC	)	MAINE POLLUTANT DISCHARGE
DIXMONT, PENOBSCOT COUNTY, MAINE	)	ELIMINATION SYSTEM PERMIT
CONCENTRATED ANIMAL FEEDING OPERATION	)	AND
ME0036821	)	WASTE DISCHARGE LICENSE
W008243-5S-B-R	)	TRANSFER & RENEWAL
APPROVAL		

Pursuant to the provisions of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, Title 33 USC, Section 1251, et seq. and Maine Laws 38 M.R.S.A. and 7 M.R.S.A. et seq., and applicable regulations, the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP hereinafter) has considered the application of the MARTIN STREAM FARM, LLC, (MSF) with its supportive data, agency review comments, and other related materials on file and FINDS THE FOLLOWING FACTS:

APPLICATION SUMMARY

The MSF has applied to the Maine DEP for a transfer and renewal of combination Maine Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (MEPDES) permit #ME0036821/Maine Waste Discharge License (WDL) #W008243-5S-A-N (permit hereinafter). The permit authorized the discharge of storm water to Martin Stream and an adjacent wetland (both Class A waterbodies) and manage process waste waters that are generated by the operation of a concentrated animal feeding operation (CAFO) located in the Town of Dixmont such that there is no discharge to surface waters. The permit was originally issued to Country Acres Farm Inc. on August 15, 2006 for a five-year term.

PERMIT SUMMARY

This permitting action is carrying forward all the terms and conditions of the 8/15/06 permit except that this permitting action is;

1. Deleting Special Condition F, *Spray Irrigation Operational Procedures, Logs and Reports*, in its entirety.
2. Deleting Special Condition G, *Drainage Swale Cleaning*, in its entirety.
3. Deleting Special Condition H, *Manure Storage Pit Abandonment Or Reduced Use*, in its entirety.

CONCLUSIONS

BASED on the findings in the attached Fact Sheet dated December 1, 2008 and subject to the Conditions listed below, the DEP makes the following CONCLUSIONS:

1. The discharge, either by itself or in combination with other discharges, will not lower the quality of any classified body of water below such classification.
2. The discharge, either by itself or in combination with other discharges, will not lower the quality of any unclassified body of water below the classification which the Department expects to adopt in accordance with state law.
3. The provisions of the State's antidegradation policy, 38 M.R.S.A., Section 464(4)(F), will be met, in that:
 - a. Existing in-stream water uses and the level of water quality necessary to protect and maintain those existing uses will be maintained and protected;
 - b. Where high quality waters of the State constitute an outstanding national resource, that water quality will be maintained and protected;
 - c. Where the standards of classification of the receiving water body are not met, the discharge will not cause or contribute to the failure of the water body to meet standards of classification;
 - d. Where the actual quality of any classified receiving water body exceeds the minimum standards of the next highest classification, that higher quality will be maintained and protected; and
 - e. Where a discharge will result in lowering the existing quality of any water body, the Department has made the finding, following the opportunity for public participation, that this action is necessary to achieve important economic or social benefits to the State.
4. The discharge will be subject to effluent limitations that require application of best practicable treatment.
5. The permittee has demonstrated it has title, right and or interest in the farm as well as the technical ability and the financial capacity to comply with all conditions of the permit.

ACTION

THEREFORE, the DEP APPROVES the above noted application of the MARTIN STREAM FARM LLC, to renew and transfer MEPDES permit #ME0036821/Maine WDL #W008243-5S-A-N dated August 15, 2006. The permit authorizes the discharge of storm water to Martin Stream and an adjacent wetland, Class A waterbodies and manage process waste waters generated by the operation of a CAFO located in Dixmont such that there are no discharge(s) to surface waters. The CAFO is SUBJECT TO THE ATTACHED CONDITIONS, and all applicable standards and regulations, including:

1. *“Maine Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit Standard Conditions Applicable To All Permits,”* revised July 1, 2002, copy attached.
2. The attached Special Conditions, including any effluent limitations and monitoring requirements.
3. This permit expires five (5) years from the date of signature below.

Date of initial receipt of application: December 1, 2008

Date of application acceptance: December 1, 2008

This order prepared by Gregg Wood, BUREAU OF LAND AND WATER QUALITY

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

A. DISCHARGE LIMITATIONS

1. There shall be no discharge of process generated waste waters to Martin Stream or adjacent wetlands. See Special Condition H(1) of this permit for a definition of process waste waters.
2. Discharge(s) of storm water shall;
 - a. Not contain a visible oil sheen, foam or floating solids in the receiving waters at any time which would impair the usages designated by the classification of the receiving waters.
 - b. Not contain materials in concentrations or combinations which are hazardous or toxic to aquatic life, or which would impair the usages designated by the classification of the receiving waters.
 - c. Not cause visible discoloration or turbidity in the receiving waters which would impair the usages designated by the classification of the receiving waters.
 - d. Notwithstanding specific conditions of this permit, discharges must not lower the quality of any classified body of water below such classification, or lower the existing quality of any body of water if the existing quality is higher than the classification.
3. Notification of discharge(s):

If, for any reason, there is a discharge of process waste water from the facility to surface waters, non-compliance with this permit or a discharge that may endanger human health or the environment, the permittee is required to make verbal notification (within 24 hours) and written notification (within 5 days) to the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources (DAFRR) entities listed in paragraph A(3)(e) below. In addition, the permittee shall keep a copy of the notification submitted to the Maine DEP and DAFRR together with the Nutrient Management Plan required by Special Condition D of this permit. The discharge notification shall contain the following information:

- a. Description of the discharge: A description and cause of the discharge, including a description of the flow path to the receiving water body and an estimation of the flow and volume discharged.
- b. Time of the discharge: The period of discharge, including exact dates and times, and the anticipated time the discharge is expected to continue.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

A. DISCHARGE LIMITATIONS (cont'd)

- c. Cause of the discharge: If caused by precipitation event(s), information from the onsite rain gauge required by Special Condition E(6) of this permit concerning the size of the precipitation event must be provided.
- d. Steps being taken to reduce, eliminate and prevent recurrence of the non-complying circumstances or discharges.
- e. Verbal notification must be made to the Maine DEP and DAFRR within 24-hours of the facility discharge. Written notification including the information required above must be received by the Maine DEP and DAFRR within five (5) calendar days of the discharge. The contact telephone numbers and addresses are:

Maine Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources
Division of Animal Health & Industry
Attn: Nutrient Management Program
28 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333-0028 Telephone: (207)-287-1132

Maine Department of Environmental Protection
Attn: Compliance Inspector
Bureau of Land & Water Quality
Division of Water Quality Management
106 Hogan Road
Bangor, Maine 04011 Telephone: (207)-941-4571

- 4. Monitoring requirements for process water discharges: In the event of an overflow or any other discharge from the storage lagoons, other waste water storage structures or feed storage operations, the following actions shall be taken:
 - a. Analysis of the discharge: All discharges shall be sampled and analyzed. Samples must, at a minimum, be analyzed for the following parameters:

Fecal coliform bacteria	Five-day biochemical oxygen demand (BOD ₅)
Total suspended solids (TSS)	Total phosphorus as phosphorus
Ortho-phosphorus	Ammonia-nitrogen as nitrogen
Total kjeldahl nitrogen (TKN) as nitrogen	
Nitrate nitrogen	
pH	

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

A. DISCHARGE LIMITATIONS (cont'd)

- b. Sampling procedures: Samples shall consist of grab samples collected from the overflow or discharges from the retention structure. A minimum of one sample shall be collected from the initial discharge (within 30 minutes or upon discovery). The sample shall be collected and analyzed in accordance with EPA approved methods for water analysis listed in 40 CFR 136. Samples collected for the purpose of monitoring shall be representative of the monitored discharge. If more than one sample is collected during the discharge, the samples may be composited (with the exception of pH and fecal coliform bacteria) when analyzed for the parameters in Special Condition A(4)(a) of this permit. Monitoring results must be submitted to the DAFRR and DEP at the addresses in A(3)(e) of this permit within 30 days of the discharge event.

B. BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Each of the following minimum standards is designed to achieve the objective of preventing discharges of pollutants to waters of the State of Maine from CAFOs and from land application activities under the operational control of the CAFO. Minimum standards or portions of minimum standards to be implemented on the effective date of the permit. In addition to these minimum standards, permittees are also required to comply with other applicable technology-based and water quality-based effluent limitations of this permit.

- a. Minimum Standard: Buffers or Equivalent Practices - Provide and maintain buffer strips or other equivalent practices near feedlots, manure storage areas, and land application areas that are sufficient to minimize discharge of pollutants to surface waters of the State of Maine (e.g., soil erosion and manure and waste water). These practices may include, but are not limited to, residue management, conservation crop rotation, grassed waterways, strip cropping, vegetative buffers, forested riparian buffers, terracing, and diversion.
- b. Minimum Standard: Divert Clean Water -Design and implement management practices to divert clean water and floodwaters from contact with feedlots and holding pens; animal manure; or manure and/or process waste water storage systems. Clean water includes rain falling on the roofs of facilities, runoff from adjacent land, or other sources.
- c. Minimum Standard: Prevent Direct Contact of Animals With Surface Waters of the State of Maine - Develop and implement appropriate controls to prevent direct access of animals in confinement to surface waters of the State of Maine and to protect water quality.
- d. Minimum Standard: Animal Mortality - Handle and dispose of dead animals in a manner that prevents contamination of surface waters and ground waters of the State of Maine.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

B. BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (cont'd)

- e. Minimum Standard: Chemical Disposal - Prevent introduction of chemicals into manure and waste water storage structures for purposes of disposal. Examples include pesticides, herbicides, cleaning and disinfectant chemicals, veterinary medicines and compounds, hazardous and toxic chemicals, fuels and petroleum products/by-products.
- f. Minimum Standard: Proper Operation & Maintenance - Implement an operation and maintenance program that involves periodic visual inspection and maintenance of all manure storage and handling equipment and structures and all runoff management devices (e.g., cleaning separators, barnyards, catch basins, screens, annual calibration of land application equipment, maintenance of filter strips) and to prevent discharges of pollutants to surface waters of the State of Maine.
- g. Minimum Standard: Maintain Proper Storage Capacity - Maintain sufficient freeboard (one foot) in liquid manure storage structure to ensure compliance with the permit conditions.

Store dry manure in production buildings or in storage facilities or otherwise store or modify the site (e.g. berms/buffers) in such a way as to prevent polluted runoff (e.g., located on relatively flat land, away from water bodies, wetlands, and wells, and/or surrounded by a berm or buffer). Provide adequate storage capacity for the typical quantity of manure generated over a 180-day period of time beginning December 1st of each year.

C. LIVESTOCK OPERATIONS PERMIT

The permittee is required to obtain and maintain a Livestock Operations Permit from the Maine DAFRR pursuant to Maine law, 7 M.R.S.A., §4204.

D. NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PLAN

Upon issuance of this permit, the permittee is required to develop and implement a Nutrient Management Plan in accordance with the standards in Maine's DAFRR regulation, Chapter 565, §6. The Nutrient Management Plan must be updated at least once each year and must be approved by a certified nutrient management plan specialist at least every five years. The Nutrient Management Plans must be kept on-site and current at all times.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

E. GENERAL FACILITY INSPECTIONS AND MONITORING

Inspection, monitoring and record keeping activities shall be conducted in accordance with the following:

1. Employee Training: Where employees are responsible for work activities that relate to permit compliance, those employees must be regularly trained or informed of any information regarding the proper operation and maintenance of the facility and waste disposal. Training shall include topics as appropriate such as land application of wastes, proper operation and maintenance of the facility, good housekeeping and material management practices, necessary record keeping requirements, and spill response and clean up. The permittee is responsible for determining and providing the appropriate training frequency for different levels of personnel and maintain records of the training provided.
2. Record Keeping and Internal Reporting Procedures. Incidents such as spills or overflows, along with information describing the pollution potential and quantity of the discharge shall be described in writing. Inspections and maintenance activities shall be documented.
3. Visual Inspections. The permittee shall inspect equipment and facility areas daily and during and subsequent to any rain event. Material handling areas shall be inspected for evidence of, or the potential for, pollutants entering the drainage system. Visual inspections of all manure and runoff storage structures, handling and distribution systems, feed storage operations other process systems or controls, and buffer strips shall be undertaken to ensure that all are in proper working order.
4. Site Inspection. A complete inspection of the facility shall be conducted by the farm manager and a report made documenting the findings of the inspection made at least once/year. The report shall be kept on-site and made available to DAFRR, DEP and EPA staff upon request.
5. All inspection reports and other record keeping required above must be kept current at all times and maintained at the facility.
6. If the operator of the farm chooses to self-record rainfall data then (see footnote #5 on page 9 of this permit) a rain gauge shall be maintained at the facility to record values for each 24-hour period.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

E. GENERAL FACILITY INSPECTIONS AND MONITORING (cont'd)

7. Summary of Inspection and Monitoring Requirements:

PARAMETER	UNITS	FREQUENCY
Facility inspection¹		
Lagoon or storage structure monitoring and inspection		
Freeboard ²	Feet	Bi-Weekly
Structural integrity (i.e., visual inspection for the integrity of berms) ³	N/A	Bi-Weekly
Precipitation		
Rainfall ⁴	Inches	Daily

Footnotes:

¹ A complete inspection of the facility shall be done and a report made annually.

² Bi-weekly (every two weeks) between February 1 and March 30 and the month of November of each calendar year or when freeboard falls below 1.5 feet. For lagoons or other liquid storage basins, report the water level as feet (to the nearest 1/10th of a foot) below the emergency overflow level. For solid manure storage structures, report the percentage of remaining storage capacity.

³ Bi-weekly (every two weeks) between February 1 and March 30 and the month of November of each calendar year. Documentation of compliance with this requirement must be compiled in an inspection report to be kept at the facility.

⁴ The permittee shall maintain a precipitation gauge at each storage facility and record the rainfall for each 24-hour period between March 1 and April 30 and November 1 through November 30 of each year or obtain daily precipitation records for said periods from other entities within a 25 miles radius of the farm.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

E. GENERAL FACILITY INSPECTIONS AND MONITORING (cont'd)

8. Additional Monitoring Requirements

Additional analysis: Upon request by the Maine DEP and or DAFRR, the permittee may be required to collect and analyze samples including but not limited to soils, surface water, ground water, and/or stored waste in a manner and frequency specified by Maine DEP and or DAFRR.

Additional monitoring for some high risk operations: Upon notification by Maine DEP and DAFRR, the permittee may be required to conduct ambient monitoring of surface and/or groundwater. For example, facilities with historical compliance problems, especially large facilities, facilities with significant environmental concerns, or facilities impacting impaired water bodies.

F. REOPENING OF PERMIT FOR MODIFICATIONS

Upon evaluation of any pertinent information obtained during the term of this permit indicating that the discharge(s) are causing, contributing or have a reasonable potential to cause or contribute to the surface waters or ground waters not to attain the standards of their assigned classifications, this permit may be modified, after notice to the permittee to: 1) establish effluent limits necessary to control specific pollutants; (2) require monitoring if results on file are inconclusive; or (3) change monitoring requirements or limitations based on new information.

G. SEVERABILITY

In the event that any provision, or part thereof, of this permit modification is declared to be unlawful by a reviewing court, the remainder of the permit shall remaining in full force and effect, and shall be construed and enforced in all aspects as if such unlawful provision, or part thereof, had been omitted, unless otherwise ordered by the court.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

H. DEFINITIONS

1. Process-generated waste water or waste water means any waste water directly or indirectly used in the operation of a feedlot for any or all of the following: spillage or overflow from animal watering systems; washing, cleaning, or flushing pens, barns, manure pits or other feedlot facilities, feed storage facilities, direct contact swimming, washing or spray cooling of animals; and dust control and any precipitation which comes in contact with any manure or litter, bedding, or any other raw material or intermediate or final material or product used in or resulting from the production of animals or direct products (e.g., milk). Waste water also includes any precipitation that comes into contact with any manure, litter or bedding, or any other raw material or intermediate or final material or product used in or resulting from the production of animal or direct products (e.g., milk).
2. Retention facility or retention structures or waste water facility means all collection ditches, conduits and swales for the collection of runoff and waste water, and all basins, ponds and lagoons used to store wastes, waste waters and manure.
3. Storm water means storm water runoff or snow melt runoff that does not come into contact or co-mingle with process waste water as defined in Section H(1) of this permit.

MAINE POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM PERMIT

AND

MAINE WASTE DISCHARGE LICENSE

FACT SHEET

Date: **December 1, 2008**

PERMIT NUMBER: **ME0036821**
LICENSE NUMBER: **W008243-5S-B-R**

NAME AND ADDRESS OF APPLICANT:

**MARTIN STREAM FARM, LLC
Box 451 Files Hill Road
Thorndike, Maine 04986**

COUNTY: **Piscataquis County**

NAME AND ADDRESS WHERE DISCHARGE OCCURS:

**1056 Moosehead Trail Road
Dixmont, Maine**

RECEIVING WATER/CLASSIFICATION: **Martin Stream, Class A**

COGNIZANT OFFICIAL AND TELEPHONE NUMBER: **Mr. Alfred Wren**
(207) 568-3447
fewren@uninets.net

1. APPLICATION SUMMARY

- a. Application: The Martin Stream Farm, LLC (MSF) has filed an application with the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) for a transfer and renewal of combination Maine Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (MEPDES) permit #ME0036821/Maine Waste Discharge License (WDL) #W008243-5S-A-N (permit hereinafter). The permit authorized the discharge of storm water to Martin Stream and an adjacent wetland (both Class A waterbodies) and manage process waste waters that are generated by the operation of a concentrated animal feeding operation (CAFO) located in the Town of Dixmont such that there is no discharge to surface waters. The permit was originally issued to Country Acres Farm Inc. on August 15, 2006 for a five-year term.

1. APPLICATION SUMMARY (cont'd)

- b. Source Description – The Farm has been identified as a CAFO as the facility has at least 200 mature dairy cattle and pollutants are discharged into waters of the State that originate outside of and pass over, across, or through or otherwise come into direct contact with the animals confined in the operation. The animals are confined on a year-round basis in up to five large barns with open-air side walls and fully covered with roofs. The five barns have a total of 800 freestalls which results in a total barn capacity of 880 animals.

The permittee proposes to move approximately 300 dry or milking cows onto the farm on or about January 1, 2009. Over a one-year time frame, the permittee anticipates growing the herd to approximately 400 animals. A consultant for the permittee has calculated that the manure storage pit may be able to accommodate up to 415 milking cows based on the bedding use at the Wren's present dairy operation and typical values for manure and wash water. The DAFRR has agreed to 400 cows as being the manure storage pit capacity and agreed to re-vist this issue after one winter's storage period when actual volumes will be available based on actual numbers of cows, bedding use and waste water generated.

As a result of significant non-compliance with the DAFRR's 4/2/03 provisional LOP and violations of Maine laws and the federal Clean Water Act, the facility was shutdown in 2007 and all animals were removed from the farm. In calendar year 2007 and 2008, significant structural changes by the owner (Agri-Max) were undertaken to bring the farm into compliance with said laws. The largest modification to the farm was the demolition of the "L" shaped manure storage pit located behind the four smaller barns and the milking parlor. All manure was removed from the pit and spread on farm lands in accordance with DAFRR rules and regulations, the concrete asphalt floor was removed and disposed of properly and the area was re-graded to promote sheet flow of storm water runoff from the area around the four smaller barns. In addition, a holding tank has been installed to temporarily store all milk room wastes prior to being conveyed to the single square manure storage pit. The DAFRR has made a determination that the manure storage pit is designed and capable of capturing a 25 year, 24-hour rainfall event. Manure will be spread on various fields owned and or leased by the MSF as permitted by the Nutrient Management Law.

2. PERMIT SUMMARY

- a. Terms and conditions - This permitting action is carrying forward all the terms and conditions of the 8/15/06 permit except that this permitting action is;
1. Deleting Special Condition F, *Spray Irrigation Operational Procedures, Logs and Reports*, in its entirety.
 2. Deleting Special Condition G, *Drainage Swale Cleaning*, in its entirety.

2. PERMIT SUMMARY (cont'd)

3. Deleting Special Condition H, *Manure Storage Pit Abandonment Or Reduced Use*, in its entirety.

- b. History: The most recent relevant permitting/license and regulatory events include:

April, 1997 – Maine law, 7M.R.S.A., Chapter 747, *Nutrient Management Act* was enacted.

December 1998 – The Maine DAFRR adopted regulation Chapter 565, *Nutrient Management Rules*. It is noted the regulation was last amended on February 17, 2001.

June 8, 2000 – The Maine DEP and DAFRR entered into a Memorandum of Agreement entitled, *Coordination of the Maine Livestock Operating Permit Program and the Maine Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit Program in Regards to Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations*. The purpose of the agreement is intended to 1) establish a collaborative process between the DEP and DAFRR so as to better coordinate review of CAFOs, and 2) clarify the roles and responsibilities of the two agencies in regard to the permitting of CAFOs under DAFRR Livestock Operations Permit (LOP) program and DEP's MEPDES permit program.

January 12, 2001 - The State of Maine received authorization from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to administer the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permitting program in Maine. From that date forward, the program has been referred to as the Maine Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (MEPDES) permitting program.

June 2005 – The Country Acre Farm (former operator) developed a Nutrient Management Plan for their farm and the plan was approved by a certified Nutrient Management Plan specialist and reviewed and approved by DAFRR.

June 19, 2006 – The Country Acre Farm submitted a complete application to the DEP and DAFRR.

August 15, 2006 – The DEP issued combination MEPDES permit #ME0036821/Maine WDL #W008243-5S-A-N to Country Acres Farm Inc. for a five-year term.

November 16, 2006 – The DAFRR issued a letter to Country Acres Farm Inc. stating that the provisional LOP issued on April 2, 2003 was being revoked as of December 1, 2006 due to non-compliance with the LOP.

December 1, 2008 – The MSF submitted an application to the DEP to transfer and renew the 8/15/06 MEPDES permit/Maine WDL issued to Country Acres Farm Inc.

3. CONDITIONS OF PERMITS

Maine law, 38 M.R.S.A. Section 414-A, requires that the effluent limitations prescribed for discharges, including, but not limited to, effluent toxicity, require application of best practicable treatment (BPT), be consistent with the U.S. Clean Water Act, and ensure that the receiving waters attain the State water quality standards as described in Maine's Surface Water Classification System. In addition, 38 M.R.S.A., Section 420 and Department rule 06-096 CMR Chapter 530, *Surface Water Toxics Control Program*, require the regulation of toxic substances not to exceed levels set forth in Department rule 06-096 CMR Chapter 584, *Surface Water Quality Criteria for Toxic Pollutants*, and that ensure safe levels for the discharge of toxic pollutants such that existing and designated uses of surface waters are maintained and protected.

4. RECEIVING WATER QUALITY STANDARDS

Pursuant to Maine law, 38 M.R.S.A., §467(4)(H)(2)(d) classifies Martin Stream (on the northern perimeter of the Martin Stream Farm's barn yard), the adjacent wetland classified as being of special significance and its tributaries upstream of the Ridge Road in Plymouth as Class A water ways. Maine law 38 M.R.S.A., §465(2) contains the standards for waters classified as Class A. Class A waters shall be of such quality that they are suitable for the designated uses of drinking water after disinfection; fishing; recreation in and on the water; industrial process and cooling water supply; hydroelectric power generation, except as prohibited under Title 12, section 403; and navigation; and as habitat for fish and other aquatic life. The habitat shall be characterized as natural.

The dissolved oxygen content of Class A waters shall be not less than 7 parts per million or 75% of saturation, whichever is higher. The aquatic life and bacteria content of Class A waters shall be as naturally occurs. It is noted, Maine law, 38 M.R.S.A., §464(4)(c) states "Where natural conditions, but not limited to, marshes, bogs, and abnormal concentrations of wildlife cause the dissolved oxygen or other water quality criteria to fall below the minimum standards specified in sections 465, 465-A and 465-B, those waters shall not be considered to be failing to attain their classification because of those natural conditions."

Except as provided in this paragraph, direct discharges to these waters licensed after January 1, 1986 are permitted only if, in addition to satisfying all the requirements of this article, the discharged effluent will be equal to or better than the existing water quality of the receiving waters. Prior to issuing a discharge license, the department shall require the applicant to objectively demonstrate to the department's satisfaction that the discharge is necessary and that there are no other reasonable alternatives available. Discharges into waters of this classification licensed prior to January 1, 1986 are allowed to continue only until practical alternatives exist.

Pursuant to Maine law 38 M.R.S.A, §D & §E state that storm water discharges to Class A waters must be in compliance with state and local requirements and material may not be deposited on the banks of Class A waters in any manner that makes transfer of pollutants into the waters likely.

5. RECEIVING WATER QUALITY CONDITIONS

A document entitled, The State of Maine, Department of Environmental Protection, 2008 Integrated Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment Report, published by the Department, pursuant to Section 305(b) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, list Martin Stream in a table entitled, *Category 4-B: Rivers And Streams Impaired by Pollutants – Pollution Control Requirements Reasonably Expected to Result in Attainment*. The report indicates A 0.5-mile segment below the former Country Acre Farm was impaired and was caused by ammonia (un-ionized) being discharged from draining manure piles. The report states that with the issuance of a CAFO permit, discharges are expected to cease and Martin Stream will return to a quality in which ambient water quality standards are attained.

6. APPLICABLE LAWS, RULES AND/OR REGULATIONS

- a. Pursuant to Section 502(14) of the federal Water Pollution Control Act (Clean Water Act), CAFOs are defined as point source dischargers.
- b. Maine law 38 M.R.S.A. §413 states that “No person may directly or indirectly discharge or have cause to be discharged any pollutant without first obtaining a license therefor from the Department.”
- c. Maine DEP rule, Chapter 521, *Applications For Waste Discharge Licenses*, §6(a) states “Permit requirement. Concentrated animal feeding operations are point sources subject to the NPDES permit program. The Department will consult with the Department of Agriculture and all applications for concentrated animal feeding operations in order to consolidate permitting requirements where feasible.” It is noted the rule references federal regulations found at 40 CFR Part 122.23 requiring CAFO’s to obtain a federal NPDES permit. However, given that the USEPA has authorized the State of Maine to administer the NPDES permit program in Maine, MEPDES permits are issued to CAFOs.

Maine DEP Chapter 521, §6(b)(3)-Appendix B establishes the criteria for determining a CAFO. The Country Acre Farm is categorically considered a CAFO as the facility has at least 200 mature dairy cattle and pollutants are discharged into waters of the State which originate outside of and pass over, across, or through or otherwise come into direct contact with the animals confined in the operation.

6. APPLICABLE LAWS, RULES AND/OR REGULATIONS (cont'd)

- d. Federal regulation 40 CFR Part 412 – *Feedlots Point Source Category*, establishes effluent limitations and guidelines representing best practicable control technology currently available (BPT) and best available technology economically achievable (BAT). BPT and BAT for CAFOs is no discharge of process waste water pollutants to navigable waters where process waste waters are defined as any process generated waste and any precipitation (rain or snow) which comes into contact with any manure, litter or bedding, or any other raw material or intermediate or final material or product used in or resulting from the production of animals or poultry or direct products (e.g. milk, eggs).
- e. Maine law, 7 M.R.S.A, §4204(H)(2) establishes the criteria for who must develop and implement a Nutrient Management Plan. CAFOs meet applicable criteria under this section. Maine DAFRR regulation Chapter 565, *Nutrient Management Rules*, §6(1) establishes the standards for Nutrient Management Plans required under Maine law, 7 M.R.S.A, §4204. Chapter 565, §6(2) requires Nutrient Management Plans to be updated at least once each year and must be approved by a certified nutrient management plan specialist at least every five years.
- f. Maine law, 7 M.R.S.A, §4205(A) requires CAFO's to obtain a Livestock Operations Permit (LOP). Maine DAFRR regulation Chapter 565, *Nutrient Management Rules*, §8(1)(a) requires the owner or operator of a CAFO to obtain a LOP or provisional LOP from the DAFRR.

7. GENERAL FACILITY INSPECTIONS AND MONITORING

The inspections, monitoring and recordkeeping required by this permitting action were developed based on guidance provided by the USEPA to promote consistency with nationwide permitting of CAFOs. In addition, the DEP consulted with the Maine DAFRR to develop inspections, monitoring and recordkeeping that would serve both agencies program requirements.

8. DISCHARGE IMPACT ON RECEIVING WATER QUALITY

As permitted, the Department has determined the existing water uses will be maintained and protected and the discharge will not cause or contribute to the failure of surface water bodies to meet standards of Class A classification.

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Public notice of this application was made in the Bangor Daily News newspaper on or about November 26, 2008. The Department receives public comments on an application until the date a final agency action is taken on that application. Those persons receiving copies of draft permits shall have at least 30 days in which to submit comments on the draft or to request a public hearing, pursuant to Chapter 522 of the Department's rules.

10. DEPARTMENT CONTACTS

Additional information concerning this permitting action may be obtained from and written comments should be sent to:

Attn: Nutrient Management Program
Maine Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources
Division of Animal Health & Industry
28 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333-0028
Telephone: (207)-287-1132

Attn: MEPDES Permitting Coordinator
Maine Department of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Land and Water Quality
Division of Water Quality Management
17 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333-0017
Telephone: (207) 287-3901

11. RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

During the comment period of December 1, 2008 through January 2, 2009, the Department solicited comments on the proposed draft permit for Martin Stream Farm LLC. No comments were received on the draft permit itself but the Department did receive a letter dated December 3, 2008, from Jerry Harding, a Dixmont landowner. Mr. Harding requested the Board of Environmental Protection take jurisdiction over the December 1, 2008 application submitted by the permittee for the renewal and transfer of the MEPDES permit. Mr. Harding expressed concerns about past operating practices at the facility including discharges of manure to Martin Stream as well as a number of housekeeping issues such as manure being tracked on the public road and flies.

Department personnel contacted Mr. Harding by phone and talked through the issues raised in his letter. In addition, the Department sent a copy of the draft permit to Mr. Harding for his review and comment. As of the date of issuance of this permit, the Department has not receive any further comments from Mr. Harding.

The Department issued a letter to Mr. Harding denying the request to have the Board on Environmental Protection take jurisdiction over the application for renewal and transfer. The Department's letter stated Mr. Harding's concerns did not rise to the level in which the Board would take jurisdiction over the application pursuant to the criteria established in Department rule, 06-096 CMR, Chapter 2, *Rules Concerning the Processing of Applications and Other Administrative Matters*.

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A. GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. General compliance. All discharges shall be consistent with the terms and conditions of this permit; any changes in production capacity or process modifications which result in changes in the quantity or the characteristics of the discharge must be authorized by an additional license or by modifications of this permit; it shall be a violation of the terms and conditions of this permit to discharge any pollutant not identified and authorized herein or to discharge in excess of the rates or quantities authorized herein or to violate any other conditions of this permit.

2. Other materials. Other materials ordinarily produced or used in the operation of this facility, which have been specifically identified in the application, may be discharged at the maximum frequency and maximum level identified in the application, provided:

- (a) They are not
 - (i) Designated as toxic or hazardous under the provisions of Sections 307 and 311, respectively, of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act; Title 38, Section 420, Maine Revised Statutes; or other applicable State Law; or
 - (ii) Known to be hazardous or toxic by the licensee.
- (b) The discharge of such materials will not violate applicable water quality standards.

3. Duty to comply. The permittee must comply with all conditions of this permit. Any permit noncompliance constitutes a violation of State law and the Clean Water Act and is grounds for enforcement action; for permit termination, revocation and reissuance, or modification; or denial of a permit renewal application.

- (a) The permittee shall comply with effluent standards or prohibitions established under section 307(a) of the Clean Water Act, and 38 MRSA, §420 or Chapter 530.5 for toxic pollutants within the time provided in the regulations that establish these standards or prohibitions, even if the permit has not yet been modified to incorporate the requirement.
- (b) Any person who violates any provision of the laws administered by the Department, including without limitation, a violation of the terms of any order, rule license, permit, approval or decision of the Board or Commissioner is subject to the penalties set forth in 38 MRSA, §349.

4. Duty to provide information. The permittee shall furnish to the Department, within a reasonable time, any information which the Department may request to determine whether cause exists for modifying, revoking and reissuing, or terminating this permit or to determine compliance with this permit. The permittee shall also furnish to the Department upon request, copies of records required to be kept by this permit.

5. Permit actions. This permit may be modified, revoked and reissued, or terminated for cause. The filing of a request by the permittee for a permit modification, revocation and reissuance, or termination, or a notification of planned changes or anticipated noncompliance does not stay any permit condition.

6. Reopener clause. The Department reserves the right to make appropriate revisions to this permit in order to establish any appropriate effluent limitations, schedule of compliance or other provisions which may be authorized under 38 MRSA, §414-A(5).

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7. Oil and hazardous substances. Nothing in this permit shall be construed to preclude the institution of any legal action or relieve the permittee from any responsibilities, liabilities or penalties to which the permittee is or may be subject under section 311 of the Federal Clean Water Act; section 106 of the Federal Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980; or 38 MRSA §§ 1301, et. seq.

8. Property rights. This permit does not convey any property rights of any sort, or any exclusive privilege.

9. Confidentiality of records. 38 MRSA §414(6) reads as follows. "Any records, reports or information obtained under this subchapter is available to the public, except that upon a showing satisfactory to the department by any person that any records, reports or information, or particular part or any record, report or information, other than the names and addresses of applicants, license applications, licenses, and effluent data, to which the department has access under this subchapter would, if made public, divulge methods or processes that are entitled to protection as trade secrets, these records, reports or information must be confidential and not available for public inspection or examination. Any records, reports or information may be disclosed to employees or authorized representatives of the State or the United States concerned with carrying out this subchapter or any applicable federal law, and to any party to a hearing held under this section on terms the commissioner may prescribe in order to protect these confidential records, reports and information, as long as this disclosure is material and relevant to any issue under consideration by the department."

10. Duty to reapply. If the permittee wishes to continue an activity regulated by this permit after the expiration date of this permit, the permittee must apply for and obtain a new permit.

11. Other laws. The issuance of this permit does not authorize any injury to persons or property or invasion of other property rights, nor does it relieve the permittee of its obligation to comply with other applicable Federal, State or local laws and regulations.

12. Inspection and entry. The permittee shall allow the Department, or an authorized representative (including an authorized contractor acting as a representative of the EPA Administrator), upon presentation of credentials and other documents as may be required by law, to:

- (a) Enter upon the permittee's premises where a regulated facility or activity is located or conducted, or where records must be kept under the conditions of this permit;
- (b) Have access to and copy, at reasonable times, any records that must be kept under the conditions of this permit;
- (c) Inspect at reasonable times any facilities, equipment (including monitoring and control equipment), practices, or operations regulated or required under this permit; and
- (d) Sample or monitor at reasonable times, for the purposes of assuring permit compliance or as otherwise authorized by the Clean Water Act, any substances or parameters at any location.

B. OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF FACILITIES

1. General facility requirements.

- (a) The permittee shall collect all waste flows designated by the Department as requiring treatment and discharge them into an approved waste treatment facility in such a manner as to

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maximize removal of pollutants unless authorization to the contrary is obtained from the Department.

- (b) The permittee shall at all times maintain in good working order and operate at maximum efficiency all waste water collection, treatment and/or control facilities.
- (c) All necessary waste treatment facilities will be installed and operational prior to the discharge of any wastewaters.
- (d) Final plans and specifications must be submitted to the Department for review prior to the construction or modification of any treatment facilities.
- (e) The permittee shall install flow measuring facilities of a design approved by the Department.
- (f) The permittee must provide an outfall of a design approved by the Department which is placed in the receiving waters in such a manner that the maximum mixing and dispersion of the wastewaters will be achieved as rapidly as possible.

2. Proper operation and maintenance. The permittee shall at all times properly operate and maintain all facilities and systems of treatment and control (and related appurtenances) which are installed or used by the permittee to achieve compliance with the conditions of this permit. Proper operation and maintenance also includes adequate laboratory controls and appropriate quality assurance procedures. This provision requires the operation of back-up or auxiliary facilities or similar systems which are installed by a permittee only when the operation is necessary to achieve compliance with the conditions of the permit.

3. Need to halt or reduce activity not a defense. It shall not be a defense for a permittee in an enforcement action that it would have been necessary to halt or reduce the permitted activity in order to maintain compliance with the conditions of this permit.

4. Duty to mitigate. The permittee shall take all reasonable steps to minimize or prevent any discharge or sludge use or disposal in violation of this permit which has a reasonable likelihood of adversely affecting human health or the environment.

5. Bypasses.

(a) Definitions.

- (i) Bypass means the intentional diversion of waste streams from any portion of a treatment facility.
- (ii) Severe property damage means substantial physical damage to property, damage to the treatment facilities which causes them to become inoperable, or substantial and permanent loss of natural resources which can reasonably be expected to occur in the absence of a bypass. Severe property damage does not mean economic loss caused by delays in production.

- (b) Bypass not exceeding limitations. The permittee may allow any bypass to occur which does not cause effluent limitations to be exceeded, but only if it also is for essential maintenance to assure efficient operation. These bypasses are not subject to the provisions of paragraphs (c) and (d) of this section.

(c) Notice.

- (i) Anticipated bypass. If the permittee knows in advance of the need for a bypass, it shall submit prior notice, if possible at least ten days before the date of the bypass.

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- (ii) Unanticipated bypass. The permittee shall submit notice of an unanticipated bypass as required in paragraph D(1)(f), below. (24-hour notice).
- (d) Prohibition of bypass.
 - (i) Bypass is prohibited, and the Department may take enforcement action against a permittee for bypass, unless:
 - (A) Bypass was unavoidable to prevent loss of life, personal injury, or severe property damage;
 - (B) There were no feasible alternatives to the bypass, such as the use of auxiliary treatment facilities, retention of untreated wastes, or maintenance during normal periods of equipment downtime. This condition is not satisfied if adequate back-up equipment should have been installed in the exercise of reasonable engineering judgment to prevent a bypass which occurred during normal periods of equipment downtime or preventive maintenance; and
 - (C) The permittee submitted notices as required under paragraph (c) of this section.
 - (ii) The Department may approve an anticipated bypass, after considering its adverse effects, if the Department determines that it will meet the three conditions listed above in paragraph (d)(i) of this section.

6. Upsets.

- (a) Definition. Upset means an exceptional incident in which there is unintentional and temporary noncompliance with technology based permit effluent limitations because of factors beyond the reasonable control of the permittee. An upset does not include noncompliance to the extent caused by operational error, improperly designed treatment facilities, inadequate treatment facilities, lack of preventive maintenance, or careless or improper operation.
- (b) Effect of an upset. An upset constitutes an affirmative defense to an action brought for noncompliance with such technology based permit effluent limitations if the requirements of paragraph (c) of this section are met. No determination made during administrative review of claims that noncompliance was caused by upset, and before an action for noncompliance, is final administrative action subject to judicial review.
- (c) Conditions necessary for a demonstration of upset. A permittee who wishes to establish the affirmative defense of upset shall demonstrate, through properly signed, contemporaneous operating logs, or other relevant evidence that:
 - (i) An upset occurred and that the permittee can identify the cause(s) of the upset;
 - (ii) The permitted facility was at the time being properly operated; and
 - (iii) The permittee submitted notice of the upset as required in paragraph D(1)(f) , below. (24 hour notice).
 - (iv) The permittee complied with any remedial measures required under paragraph B(4).
- (d) Burden of proof. In any enforcement proceeding the permittee seeking to establish the occurrence of an upset has the burden of proof.

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C. MONITORING AND RECORDS

1. General Requirements. This permit shall be subject to such monitoring requirements as may be reasonably required by the Department including the installation, use and maintenance of monitoring equipment or methods (including, where appropriate, biological monitoring methods). The permittee shall provide the Department with periodic reports on the proper Department reporting form of monitoring results obtained pursuant to the monitoring requirements contained herein.

2. Representative sampling. Samples and measurements taken as required herein shall be representative of the volume and nature of the monitored discharge. If effluent limitations are based wholly or partially on quantities of a product processed, the permittee shall ensure samples are representative of times when production is taking place. Where discharge monitoring is required when production is less than 50%, the resulting data shall be reported as a daily measurement but not included in computation of averages, unless specifically authorized by the Department.

3. Monitoring and records.

- (a) Samples and measurements taken for the purpose of monitoring shall be representative of the monitored activity.
- (b) Except for records of monitoring information required by this permit related to the permittee's sewage sludge use and disposal activities, which shall be retained for a period of at least five years, the permittee shall retain records of all monitoring information, including all calibration and maintenance records and all original strip chart recordings for continuous monitoring instrumentation, copies of all reports required by this permit, and records of all data used to complete the application for this permit, for a period of at least 3 years from the date of the sample, measurement, report or application. This period may be extended by request of the Department at any time.
- (c) Records of monitoring information shall include:
 - (i) The date, exact place, and time of sampling or measurements;
 - (ii) The individual(s) who performed the sampling or measurements;
 - (iii) The date(s) analyses were performed;
 - (iv) The individual(s) who performed the analyses;
 - (v) The analytical techniques or methods used; and
 - (vi) The results of such analyses.
- (d) Monitoring results must be conducted according to test procedures approved under 40 CFR part 136, unless other test procedures have been specified in the permit.
- (e) State law provides that any person who tampers with or renders inaccurate any monitoring devices or method required by any provision of law, or any order, rule license, permit approval or decision is subject to the penalties set forth in 38 MRSA, §349.

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D. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

1. Reporting requirements.

- (a) Planned changes. The permittee shall give notice to the Department as soon as possible of any planned physical alterations or additions to the permitted facility. Notice is required only when:
 - (i) The alteration or addition to a permitted facility may meet one of the criteria for determining whether a facility is a new source in 40 CFR 122.29(b); or
 - (ii) The alteration or addition could significantly change the nature or increase the quantity of pollutants discharged. This notification applies to pollutants which are subject neither to effluent limitations in the permit, nor to notification requirements under Section D(4).
 - (iii) The alteration or addition results in a significant change in the permittee's sludge use or disposal practices, and such alteration, addition, or change may justify the application of permit conditions that are different from or absent in the existing permit, including notification of additional use or disposal sites not reported during the permit application process or not reported pursuant to an approved land application plan;
- (b) Anticipated noncompliance. The permittee shall give advance notice to the Department of any planned changes in the permitted facility or activity which may result in noncompliance with permit requirements.
- (c) Transfers. This permit is not transferable to any person except upon application to and approval of the Department pursuant to 38 MRSA, § 344 and Chapters 2 and 522.
- (d) Monitoring reports. Monitoring results shall be reported at the intervals specified elsewhere in this permit.
 - (i) Monitoring results must be reported on a Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) or forms provided or specified by the Department for reporting results of monitoring of sludge use or disposal practices.
 - (ii) If the permittee monitors any pollutant more frequently than required by the permit using test procedures approved under 40 CFR part 136 or as specified in the permit, the results of this monitoring shall be included in the calculation and reporting of the data submitted in the DMR or sludge reporting form specified by the Department.
 - (iii) Calculations for all limitations which require averaging of measurements shall utilize an arithmetic mean unless otherwise specified by the Department in the permit.
- (e) Compliance schedules. Reports of compliance or noncompliance with, or any progress reports on, interim and final requirements contained in any compliance schedule of this permit shall be submitted no later than 14 days following each schedule date.
- (f) Twenty-four hour reporting.
 - (i) The permittee shall report any noncompliance which may endanger health or the environment. Any information shall be provided orally within 24 hours from the time the permittee becomes aware of the circumstances. A written submission shall also be provided within 5 days of the time the permittee becomes aware of the circumstances. The written submission shall contain a description of the noncompliance and its cause; the period of noncompliance, including exact dates and times, and if the noncompliance

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has not been corrected, the anticipated time it is expected to continue; and steps taken or planned to reduce, eliminate, and prevent reoccurrence of the noncompliance.

(ii) The following shall be included as information which must be reported within 24 hours under this paragraph.

(A) Any unanticipated bypass which exceeds any effluent limitation in the permit.

(B) Any upset which exceeds any effluent limitation in the permit.

(C) Violation of a maximum daily discharge limitation for any of the pollutants listed by the Department in the permit to be reported within 24 hours.

(iii) The Department may waive the written report on a case-by-case basis for reports under paragraph (f)(ii) of this section if the oral report has been received within 24 hours.

(g) Other noncompliance. The permittee shall report all instances of noncompliance not reported under paragraphs (d), (e), and (f) of this section, at the time monitoring reports are submitted. The reports shall contain the information listed in paragraph (f) of this section.

(h) Other information. Where the permittee becomes aware that it failed to submit any relevant facts in a permit application, or submitted incorrect information in a permit application or in any report to the Department, it shall promptly submit such facts or information.

2. Signatory requirement. All applications, reports, or information submitted to the Department shall be signed and certified as required by Chapter 521, Section 5 of the Department's rules. State law provides that any person who knowingly makes any false statement, representation or certification in any application, record, report, plan or other document filed or required to be maintained by any order, rule, permit, approval or decision of the Board or Commissioner is subject to the penalties set forth in 38 MRSA, §349.

3. Availability of reports. Except for data determined to be confidential under A(9), above, all reports prepared in accordance with the terms of this permit shall be available for public inspection at the offices of the Department. As required by State law, effluent data shall not be considered confidential. Knowingly making any false statement on any such report may result in the imposition of criminal sanctions as provided by law.

4. Existing manufacturing, commercial, mining, and silvicultural dischargers. In addition to the reporting requirements under this Section, all existing manufacturing, commercial, mining, and silvicultural dischargers must notify the Department as soon as they know or have reason to believe:

(a) That any activity has occurred or will occur which would result in the discharge, on a routine or frequent basis, of any toxic pollutant which is not limited in the permit, if that discharge will exceed the highest of the following "notification levels":

(i) One hundred micrograms per liter (100 ug/l);

(ii) Two hundred micrograms per liter (200 ug/l) for acrolein and acrylonitrile; five hundred micrograms per liter (500 ug/l) for 2,4-dinitrophenol and for 2-methyl-4,6-dinitrophenol; and one milligram per liter (1 mg/l) for antimony;

(iii) Five (5) times the maximum concentration value reported for that pollutant in the permit application in accordance with Chapter 521 Section 4(g)(7); or

(iv) The level established by the Department in accordance with Chapter 523 Section 5(f).

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- (b) That any activity has occurred or will occur which would result in any discharge, on a non-routine or infrequent basis, of a toxic pollutant which is not limited in the permit, if that discharge will exceed the highest of the following "notification levels":
 - (i) Five hundred micrograms per liter (500 ug/l);
 - (ii) One milligram per liter (1 mg/l) for antimony;
 - (iii) Ten (10) times the maximum concentration value reported for that pollutant in the permit application in accordance with Chapter 521 Section 4(g)(7); or
 - (iv) The level established by the Department in accordance with Chapter 523 Section 5(f).

5. Publicly owned treatment works.

- (a) All POTWs must provide adequate notice to the Department of the following:
 - (i) Any new introduction of pollutants into the POTW from an indirect discharger which would be subject to section 301 or 306 of CWA or Chapter 528 if it were directly discharging those pollutants.
 - (ii) Any substantial change in the volume or character of pollutants being introduced into that POTW by a source introducing pollutants into the POTW at the time of issuance of the permit.
 - (iii) For purposes of this paragraph, adequate notice shall include information on (A) the quality and quantity of effluent introduced into the POTW, and (B) any anticipated impact of the change on the quantity or quality of effluent to be discharged from the POTW.
- (b) When the effluent discharged by a POTW for a period of three consecutive months exceeds 80 percent of the permitted flow, the permittee shall submit to the Department a projection of loadings up to the time when the design capacity of the treatment facility will be reached, and a program for maintaining satisfactory treatment levels consistent with approved water quality management plans.

E. OTHER REQUIREMENTS

1. Emergency action - power failure. Within thirty days after the effective date of this permit, the permittee shall notify the Department of facilities and plans to be used in the event the primary source of power to its wastewater pumping and treatment facilities fails as follows.

- (a) For municipal sources. During power failure, all wastewaters which are normally treated shall receive a minimum of primary treatment and disinfection. Unless otherwise approved, alternate power supplies shall be provided for pumping stations and treatment facilities. Alternate power supplies shall be on-site generating units or an outside power source which is separate and independent from sources used for normal operation of the wastewater facilities.
- (b) For industrial and commercial sources. The permittee shall either maintain an alternative power source sufficient to operate the wastewater pumping and treatment facilities or halt, reduce or otherwise control production and or all discharges upon reduction or loss of power to the wastewater pumping or treatment facilities.

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2. Spill prevention. (applicable only to industrial sources) Within six months of the effective date of this permit, the permittee shall submit to the Department for review and approval, with or without conditions, a spill prevention plan. The plan shall delineate methods and measures to be taken to prevent and or contain any spills of pulp, chemicals, oils or other contaminants and shall specify means of disposal and or treatment to be used.

3. Removed substances. Solids, sludges trash rack cleanings, filter backwash, or other pollutants removed from or resulting from the treatment or control of waste waters shall be disposed of in a manner approved by the Department.

4. Connection to municipal sewer. (applicable only to industrial and commercial sources) All wastewaters designated by the Department as treatable in a municipal treatment system will be cosigned to that system when it is available. This permit will expire 90 days after the municipal treatment facility becomes available, unless this time is extended by the Department in writing.

F. DEFINITIONS. For the purposes of this permit, the following definitions shall apply. Other definitions applicable to this permit may be found in Chapters 520 through 529 of the Department's rules

Average means the arithmetic mean of values taken at the frequency required for each parameter over the specified period. For bacteria, the average shall be the geometric mean.

Average monthly discharge limitation means the highest allowable average of daily discharges over a calendar month, calculated as the sum of all daily discharges measured during a calendar month divided by the number of daily discharges measured during that month. Except, however, bacteriological tests may be calculated as a geometric mean.

Average weekly discharge limitation means the highest allowable average of daily discharges over a calendar week, calculated as the sum of all daily discharges measured during a calendar week divided by the number of daily discharges measured during that week.

Best management practices ("BMPs") means schedules of activities, prohibitions of practices, maintenance procedures, and other management practices to prevent or reduce the pollution of waters of the State. BMPs also include treatment requirements, operating procedures, and practices to control plant site runoff, spillage or leaks, sludge or waste disposal, or drainage from raw material storage.

Composite sample means a sample consisting of a minimum of eight grab samples collected at equal intervals during a 24 hour period (or a lesser period as specified in the section on monitoring and reporting) and combined proportional to the flow over that same time period.

Continuous discharge means a discharge which occurs without interruption throughout the operating hours of the facility, except for infrequent shutdowns for maintenance, process changes, or other similar activities.

Daily discharge means the discharge of a pollutant measured during a calendar day or any 24-hour period that reasonably represents the calendar day for purposes of sampling. For pollutants with limitations expressed in units of mass, the daily discharge is calculated as the total mass of the pollutant discharged over the day. For pollutants with limitations expressed in other units of measurement, the daily discharge is calculated as the average measurement of the pollutant over the day.

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Discharge Monitoring Report ("DMR") means the EPA uniform national form, including any subsequent additions, revisions, or modifications for the reporting of self-monitoring results by permittees. DMRs must be used by approved States as well as by EPA. EPA will supply DMRs to any approved State upon request. The EPA national forms may be modified to substitute the State Agency name, address, logo, and other similar information, as appropriate, in place of EPA's.

Flow weighted composite sample means a composite sample consisting of a mixture of aliquots collected at a constant time interval, where the volume of each aliquot is proportional to the flow rate of the discharge.

Grab sample means an individual sample collected in a period of less than 15 minutes.

Interference means a Discharge which, alone or in conjunction with a discharge or discharges from other sources, both:

- (1) Inhibits or disrupts the POTW, its treatment processes or operations, or its sludge processes, use or disposal; and
- (2) Therefore is a cause of a violation of any requirement of the POTW's NPDES permit (including an increase in the magnitude or duration of a violation) or of the prevention of sewage sludge use or disposal in compliance with the following statutory provisions and regulations or permits issued thereunder (or more stringent State or local regulations): Section 405 of the Clean Water Act, the Solid Waste Disposal Act (SWDA) (including title II, more commonly referred to as the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), and including State regulations contained in any State sludge management plan prepared pursuant to subtitle D of the SWDA), the Clean Air Act, the Toxic Substances Control Act, and the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act.

Maximum daily discharge limitation means the highest allowable daily discharge.

New source means any building, structure, facility, or installation from which there is or may be a discharge of pollutants, the construction of which commenced:

- (a) After promulgation of standards of performance under section 306 of CWA which are applicable to such source, or
- (b) After proposal of standards of performance in accordance with section 306 of CWA which are applicable to such source, but only if the standards are promulgated in accordance with section 306 within 120 days of their proposal.

Pass through means a discharge which exits the POTW into waters of the State in quantities or concentrations which, alone or in conjunction with a discharge or discharges from other sources, is a cause of a violation of any requirement of the POTW's NPDES permit (including an increase in the magnitude or duration of a violation).

Permit means an authorization, license, or equivalent control document issued by EPA or an approved State to implement the requirements of 40 CFR parts 122, 123 and 124. Permit includes an NPDES general permit (Chapter 529). Permit does not include any permit which has not yet been the subject of final agency action, such as a draft permit or a proposed permit.

Person means an individual, firm, corporation, municipality, quasi-municipal corporation, state agency, federal agency or other legal entity.

MAINE POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM PERMIT

STANDARD CONDITIONS APPLICABLE TO ALL PERMITS

Point source means any discernible, confined and discrete conveyance, including, but not limited to, any pipe, ditch, channel, tunnel, conduit, well, discrete fissure, container, rolling stock, concentrated animal feeding operation or vessel or other floating craft, from which pollutants are or may be discharged.

Pollutant means dredged spoil, solid waste, junk, incinerator residue, sewage, refuse, effluent, garbage, sewage sludge, munitions, chemicals, biological or radiological materials, oil, petroleum products or byproducts, heat, wrecked or discarded equipment, rock, sand, dirt and industrial, municipal, domestic, commercial or agricultural wastes of any kind.

Process wastewater means any water which, during manufacturing or processing, comes into direct contact with or results from the production or use of any raw material, intermediate product, finished product, byproduct, or waste product.

Publicly owned treatment works ("POTW") means any facility for the treatment of pollutants owned by the State or any political subdivision thereof, any municipality, district, quasi-municipal corporation or other public entity.

Septage means, for the purposes of this permit, any waste, refuse, effluent sludge or other material removed from a septic tank, cesspool, vault privy or similar source which concentrates wastes or to which chemicals have been added. Septage does not include wastes from a holding tank.

Time weighted composite means a composite sample consisting of a mixture of equal volume aliquots collected over a constant time interval.

Toxic pollutant includes any pollutant listed as toxic under section 307(a)(1) or, in the case of sludge use or disposal practices, any pollutant identified in regulations implementing section 405(d) of the CWA. Toxic pollutant also includes those substances or combination of substances, including disease causing agents, which after discharge or upon exposure, ingestion, inhalation or assimilation into any organism, including humans either directly through the environment or indirectly through ingestion through food chains, will, on the basis of information available to the board either alone or in combination with other substances already in the receiving waters or the discharge, cause death, disease, abnormalities, cancer, genetic mutations, physiological malfunctions, including malfunctions in reproduction, or physical deformations in such organism or their offspring.

Wetlands means those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or ground water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs, and similar areas.

Whole effluent toxicity means the aggregate toxic effect of an effluent measured directly by a toxicity test.



DEP INFORMATION SHEET

Appealing a Commissioner's Licensing Decision

Dated: May 2004

Contact: (207) 287-2811

SUMMARY

There are two methods available to an aggrieved person seeking to appeal a licensing decision made by the Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) Commissioner: (1) in an administrative process before the Board of Environmental Protection (Board); or (2) in a judicial process before Maine's Superior Court. This INFORMATION SHEET, in conjunction with consulting statutory and regulatory provisions referred to herein, can help aggrieved persons with understanding their rights and obligations in filing an administrative or judicial appeal.

I. ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS TO THE BOARD

LEGAL REFERENCES

DEP's *General Laws*, 38 M.R.S.A. § 341-D(4), and its *Rules Concerning the Processing of Applications and Other Administrative Matters* (Chapter 2), 06-096 CMR 2.24 (April 1, 2003).

HOW LONG YOU HAVE TO SUBMIT AN APPEAL TO THE BOARD

The Board must receive a written notice of appeal within 30 calendar days of the date on which the Commissioner's decision was filed with the Board. Appeals filed after 30 calendar days will be rejected.

HOW TO SUBMIT AN APPEAL TO THE BOARD

Signed original appeal documents must be sent to: Chair, Board of Environmental Protection, c/o Department of Environmental Protection, 17 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0017; faxes are acceptable for purposes of meeting the deadline when followed by receipt of mailed original documents within five (5) working days. Receipt on a particular day must be by 5:00 PM at DEP's offices in Augusta; materials received after 5:00 PM are not considered received until the following day. The person appealing a licensing decision must also send the DEP's Commissioner and the applicant a copy of the documents. All the information listed in the next section must be submitted at the time the appeal is filed. Only the extraordinary circumstances described at the end of that section will justify evidence not in the DEP's record at the time of decision being added to the record for consideration by the Board as part of an appeal.

WHAT YOUR APPEAL PAPERWORK MUST CONTAIN

The materials constituting an appeal must contain the following information at the time submitted:

1. *Aggrieved Status.* Standing to maintain an appeal requires the appellant to show they are particularly injured by the Commissioner's decision.
2. *The findings, conclusions or conditions objected to or believed to be in error.* Specific references and facts regarding the appellant's issues with the decision must be provided in the notice of appeal.
3. *The basis of the objections or challenge.* If possible, specific regulations, statutes or other facts should be referenced. This may include citing omissions of relevant requirements, and errors believed to have been made in interpretations, conclusions, and relevant requirements.
4. *The remedy sought.* This can range from reversal of the Commissioner's decision on the license or permit to changes in specific permit conditions.

5. *All the matters to be contested.* The Board will limit its consideration to those arguments specifically raised in the written notice of appeal.
6. *Request for hearing.* The Board will hear presentations on appeals at its regularly scheduled meetings, unless a public hearing is requested and granted. A request for public hearing on an appeal must be filed as part of the notice of appeal.
7. *New or additional evidence to be offered.* The Board may allow new or additional evidence as part of an appeal only when the person seeking to add information to the record can show due diligence in bringing the evidence to the DEP's attention at the earliest possible time in the licensing process or show that the evidence itself is newly discovered and could not have been presented earlier in the process. Specific requirements for additional evidence are found in Chapter 2, Section 24(B)(5).

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS IN APPEALING A DECISION TO THE BOARD

1. *Be familiar with all relevant material in the DEP record.* A license file is public information made easily accessible by DEP. Upon request, the DEP will make the material available during normal working hours, provide space to review the file, and provide opportunity for photocopying materials. There is a charge for copies or copying services.
2. *Be familiar with the regulations and laws under which the application was processed, and the procedural rules governing your appeal.* DEP staff will provide this information on request and answer questions regarding applicable requirements.
3. *The filing of an appeal does not operate as a stay to any decision.* An applicant proceeding with a project pending the outcome of an appeal runs the risk of the decision being reversed or modified as a result of the appeal.

WHAT TO EXPECT ONCE YOU FILE A TIMELY APPEAL WITH THE BOARD

The Board will formally acknowledge initiation of the appeals procedure, including the name of the DEP project manager assigned to the specific appeal, within 15 days of receiving a timely filing. The notice of appeal, all materials accepted by the Board Chair as additional evidence, and any materials submitted in response to the appeal will be sent to Board members along with a briefing and recommendation from DEP staff. Parties filing appeals and interested persons are notified in advance of the final date set for Board consideration of an appeal or request for public hearing. With or without holding a public hearing, the Board may affirm, amend, or reverse a Commissioner decision. The Board will notify parties to an appeal and interested persons of its decision.

II. APPEALS TO MAINE SUPERIOR COURT

Maine law allows aggrieved persons to appeal final Commissioner licensing decisions to Maine's Superior Court, see 38 M.R.S.A. § 346(1); 06-096 CMR 2.26; 5 M.R.S.A. § 11001; & MRCivP 80C. Parties to the licensing decision must file a petition for review within 30 days after receipt of notice of the Commissioner's written decision. A petition for review by any other person aggrieved must be filed within 40-days from the date the written decision is rendered. The laws cited in this paragraph and other legal procedures govern the contents and processing of a Superior Court appeal.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

If you have questions or need additional information on the appeal process, contact the DEP's Director of Procedures and Enforcement at (207) 287-2811.

Note: The DEP provides this INFORMATION SHEET for general guidance only; it is not intended for use as a legal reference. Maine law governs an appellant's rights.
