

State Conservation Commission Meeting

March 12, 2024

Hybrid/Virtual Meeting

Agenda

Briefing Session - 10:00 a.m.

- Energy Works Protocol for Addressing Manure Treatment Technology in Bay Model – Pat Thompson
- Proposed SCC's Conservation District Directors Per Diem Policy – Justin Challenger, SCC
- Logger Training and Outreach to Provide Implementation of BMPs in Pennsylvania's Forests – Justin Challenger, SCC; Chuck Coup, Sustainable Forestry Initiative; and Jon Geyer, Hardwoods Development Council

Executive Session – 11:30 a.m.

Business Session – 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

A. Opportunity for Public Comment

B. Business and Information Items

1. Approval of Minutes
 - a. January 23, 2024 Public Meeting (A)
 - b. February 20, 2024 Conference Call (A)
2. Nutrient and Odor Management Program
 - a. Odor Management Plan (OMP) – Nelson H. Auker – Auker Farm – Amend B – Karl Dymond, SCC (A)
 - b. Nutrient Management Fund Budget – Brady Seeley, SCC (A)
 - c. FY 24-25 Nutrient Management/Manure Management Delegation Amounts – Brady Seeley, SCC (A)
3. Protocol for Addressing Manure Treatment Technology – Doug Wolfgang, SCC (A)
4. Logger Training and Outreach to Provide Implementation of BMPs in Pennsylvania's Forests – Justin Challenger, SCC; Chuck Coup, Sustainable Forestry Initiative; and Jon Geyer, Hardwoods Development Council (A)
5. ACAP Update – Justin Challenger, SCC (NA)
6. Proposed Changes for the FY 2024 REAP Program – Joel Semke, SCC (NA)
7. Sustainable Ag Board Update – Mike Roth, SCC (NA)

C. Written Reports

1. Program Reports

- a. Nutrient and Odor Management Program Measurables Report
- b. March 2024 Status Report on Facility Odor Management Plan Reviews
- c. NMP Actions

2. Ombudsman Program Reports – Southern Allegheny Region (Blair County Conservation District) and Lancaster County Conservation District.

D. Cooperating Agency Reports Adjournment

Next Public Meetings/Conference Calls:

April 9, 2024 - Conference Call

May 14, 2024 – Hybrid/Virtual Meeting

STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING

PA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

In-Person and Microsoft Teams

Tuesday, January 23, 2024 – 1:00 p.m.

Draft Minutes

Members Present: Deputy Secretary Lisa Graybeal for Secretary Russell Redding, PDA; Deputy Secretary Bevin Buchheister for Acting Secretary Jessica Shirley, DEP; Mike Flinchbaugh; Daryl Miller; Ron Rohall; Ron Kopp; Don Koontz; Denise Coleman, NRCS; Chris Houser, PSU (virtual); Drew Gilchrist, DCNR (virtual); Tree Zuzzio, DCED (virtual); and Dennis Beck, PACD.

A. **Public Comment** – None.

B. **Business and Information Items**

Doug Wolfgang, Executive Secretary, noted that an Executive Session was held to address DGLVR and Nutrient Management Program compliance and other program legal issues.

1. Approval of Minutes –November 14, 2023 - Public Meeting and December 12, 2023 – Conference Call.

Ron Kopp moved to approve the November 14, 2023, public meeting minutes. Motion seconded by Daryl Miller. Motion carried. Don Koontz moved to approve the December 12, 2023 conference call minutes. Motion seconded by Bevin Buchheister. Motion carried.

2. Nutrient and Odor Management Program

a. Odor Management Plan (OMP) – Chris Hoover, Misty Hollow Acres – Amend A – Karl Dymond, SCC. Karl reported that the Commission is required to approve Level II Odor Management Plans when new or existing Concentrated Animal Operations (CAOs) or Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) are planning to construct new or expand existing manure storage or animal housing facilities. Karl presented details regarding the Chris Hoover, Misty Hollow Acres, Lancaster County, plan for approval.

Bevin Buchheister made a motion to approve the request of district audit report extensions for Columbia, Juniata, and Montour Counties. Motion seconded by Ron Rohall. Motion carried.

b. PDA/SCC Certification/Education Program Synopsis – Mike Aucoin, SCC. Mike reported that the SCC facilitates training and education programs for individuals interested in commercial or public certification to develop or review nutrient or odor management plans under the Act 38 Nutrient Management or Odor Management programs. Training is also facilitated for commercial manure haulers and brokers seeking certification under the Act 49 Commercial Manure Hauler and Broker

Certification Program. Mike provided an overview and update of these efforts on behalf of the Commission.

Action: No action required.

3. ACAP Bidding – Justin Challenger, SCC

This item was removed from the Agenda pending further research.

4. Assignment of Payment Form – Eric Cromer, SCC. Eric reported that several counties that are administering ACAP have requested that payments for projects go directly from the county conservation district to the contractor when projects are complete. This eliminates concerns some farm owners have about tax implications and accepting grant funding directly from government. It also improves the overall funding delivery system to pay directly to contractors. The commission staff, in consultation with PDA legal counsel, developed an assignment of payment form that counties may adopt to accommodate these requests. Eric provided details and asked the members to approve the form for counties to use.

Ron Rohall made a motion to approve the assignment of payment form that was developed by Commission staff and PDA legal counsel. Motion seconded by Ron Kopp. Motion carried.

5. EPA MEB Award 2023 – Doug Wolfgang, SCC. Doug reported that the Commission approved an award of \$4 million in EPA Most Effective Basin (MEB) Infrastructure Investments and Job Act (IIJA) in June 2023. The \$4 million allocation was set to be split equally (\$2 million each) between the Sustainable Agriculture Board (SAB) and the Conservation Excellence Program (CEG). Staff proposed to the Commission that \$1 million of allocation originally approved for SAB funds instead be dedicated to the CEG program, to accommodate the more immediate need to fund conservation projects that leverage public-private partnerships. This will result in a \$3 million allocation to CEG and a \$1 million allocation to SAB.

Bevin Buchheister made a motion to approve the request that \$1 million of allocation originally approved for SAB funds instead be dedicated to the CEG program. Motion seconded by Ron Kopp. Motion carried.

6. CEG Public Private Partnership Proposals – Eric Cromer, SCC. Eric reported that the Commission staff initiated a request for proposals (RFP) for projects that prioritize local partnerships and leverage public private partnerships. Four proposals were received for projects in Chesapeake Bay Tier 1 and Tier 2 counties, with a total funding request of over \$3 million. Proposals were received by Alliance for Chesapeake Bay, Lancaster Farmland Trust, Centre County Conservation District, and Franklin County Conservation District. Eric discussed the proposals and asked Commission members to approve funding, contingent upon Agenda Item B.5 above.

Don Koontz made a motion to approve the Request for Proposals (RFP) for four projects in Chesapeake Bay Tier 1 and Tier 2 counties. Motion seconded by Bevin Buchheister. Motion carried.

7. 2024 Conservation District Director Appointment Update – Barb Buckingham, SCC. Barb reported that the Commission is responsible for tracking conservation district director appointments. Districts are required to report information on appointments to the Commission annually. As of January 9, 2024, 47 counties (71% of all counties) have submitted their county’s list of director appointments for 2024. Reminder letters will be sent to those who did not.

Action: No action required.

8. Annual Conservation District Audit Report, Calendar Year 2022 – Jaci Kerstetter, DEP. Jaci reported that the Commission requires annual audits of conservation district financial records for all districts statewide. Jaci provided an update on the 2022 reports, due by December 31, 2023.

Daryl Miller made a motion to accept the report of district audits for the calendar year 2022. Motion seconded by Ron Rohall. Motion carried.

9. Chapter 102 Individual Permit Pilot Program Delegation – Krystal Bloom, DEP. Krystal reported that DEP is initiating a pilot program for the review of Chapter 102 Individual NPDES Permits in 2024. The pilot program would involve modified submission and review procedures to determine if these changes have a positive impact on application review times. DEP has held two meetings with a group of districts to introduce this process and integrate their comments. The initial group of districts included in the process are known to receive high to moderate numbers of individual permit applications. To participate in this voluntary program DEP has determined that an amendment to the Chapter 102 delegation agreement is necessary. Included with this memo is the amendment to the 102 Delegation Agreement for the Chapter 102 Individual NPDES Permit Pilot Program for the State Conservation Commission review. This amendment will only be added to agreements for districts that have board approval to participate in this Program. DEP respectfully requests the Commission approve the amendment to the 102 Delegation for the Chapter 102 Individual NPDES Permit Pilot Program.

Ron Kopp made a motion to approve the amendment to the 102 Delegation for the Chapter 102 Individual NPDES Permit Pilot Program. Motion seconded by Don Koontz. Motion carried.

C. Written Reports – Self Explanatory

1. Program Reports
 - a. Nutrient and Odor Management Program Measurables Report
 - b. January 2024 Status Report on Facility Odor Management Plan Reviews
 - c. NMP Actions
 - d. NMP Update Memo
2. Ombudsman Program Reports – Southern Allegheny Region (Blair County Conservation District) and Lancaster County Conservation District

D. Cooperating Agency Reports – PACD, NRCS, Penn State, DEP, DCNR, DCED, PDA

1. **PACD** – Dennis Beck reported that the Joint Annual Conference will be held on July 17-18, 2024 at the Penn Stater Conference Center in State College. JAC attendance has been down the past few years; therefore, the planning committee wanted to change the format of the JAC this year. Tours will be added. Organizers are trying to make it a more family-friendly event. Thanks to the SCC for support in PACD's and conservation district endeavors.
2. **NRCS** – Denise Coleman reported that all Commission members received a copy of PA NRCS FY 2023 (October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2023) Accomplishments. The total number of conservation practices that were applied is 44,360. Denise shared a breakdown of funding by watershed. EQIP and Conservation Stewardship numbers were shared, too. Numbers of conservation practices applied were also shared. Regarding agronomic practices, Denise reported on 2023 investments on private working lands. The 2024 FY includes \$50 million in EQIP funding. \$30 million is being obligated in contracts for cover crops from NRCS. Watershed rehab accomplishments for FY23 were reviewed. The ACAP training center opened in 2023. Many trainings were held, including: Boot Camp, Conservation Planner, Engineer, Statewide Office, Soil Health, CNMP TSP, and Basic Wetland.
3. **PSU** – Chris Houser reported that the Farm Show was a great experience. There was great representation from the Penn State Extension teams. Chris is on the Dean search committee for the College of Agriculture. The committee would like to review applicants in March and start the interviews soon after that. They would like to have the new Dean in place by July 2024.
4. **DEP** – Deputy Secretary Bevin Buchheister reported: **Growing Greener Grant Awards Announced** On January 5, the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) announced more than \$12 million in Growing Greener Plus Grants to support local watershed restoration projects, reclaim abandoned mines, reduce flooding, nutrient and sediment pollution. A total of sixty-two (62) Growing Greener Grants were awarded in the 2023 round. Of those, twenty-two (22) grants totaling \$4,250,000 were awarded to conservation districts. The 2024 Growing Greener Grant Round is expected to open in Spring 2024. We recommend anyone interested in applying begin planning projects.

2024 Countywide Action Plan (CAP) Implementation Grant Awards Announced On December 1, 2023 the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) announced more than \$19 million in 2024 Countywide Action Plan (CAP) Implementation Grants to county teams across Pennsylvania's share of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. Funded through a combination of state Environmental Stewardship Fund / Growing Greener and federal Chesapeake Bay funds, these grants support counties' efforts in reducing nutrient and sediment pollution to restore the health of local streams, rivers, and lakes and ultimately, the Chesapeake Bay. The 2024 CAP Implementation Grant round brought in applications for 226 projects that will be completed in the next 12 to 18 months, resulting in an estimated reduction of over 170,000 pounds/year of nitrogen, 122,000 pounds/year of phosphorus, and 36.3 million pounds/year of sediment.

Chapter 102 Individual NPDES Permit Pilot Program - The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is introducing a Pilot program to evaluate new procedures for streamlining the review of Chapter 102 Individual NPDES Permit applications and

improving the quality of applications received. An initial group of 12 Conservation Districts were approached for possible participation in the Pilot program. These Districts were approached because they represent areas with moderate to high numbers of land development projects needing individual permits and include both PCSM-delegated and non-PCSM delegated Districts. Additional Conservation Districts can request to participate in the Pilot; acceptance of a Conservation District into the Pilot will be subject to District and regional staff availability and at the discretion of DEP. The general intention of the Pilot program is to accept a diverse range of projects so that a broad evaluation of the Pilot can be made upon conclusion. Projects which propose green infrastructure and/or riparian buffers should receive acceptance priority. DEP has the discretion to determine which projects are accepted into the Pilot Program, recognizing that highly complex projects may be ineligible. Prior to submission of the application, the owner/developer/applicant and the licensed professional that will prepare the PCSM Plan must schedule and attend two pre-application meetings (virtual or in-person based on availability and at DEP/District's discretion). These meetings cannot be waived. The purpose of these meetings is to ensure a better and more complete application is submitted. This will allow the District to perform the completeness and the technical review simultaneously and in turn shorten the review timeframes.

Chesapeake Bay 2024 Clean Water Progress Team Strategies for Success webinar On January 3, the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Restoration Division (CBWRD) hosted the *2024 Clean Water Progress Team Strategies for Success* webinar, as a follow up to the October 11, 2023, Clean Water Gathering of state program and Countywide Action Planning (CAP) leaders. During the webinar, staff provided a recap of the Clean Water Gathering and an overview of the plan to take CAP and Phase 3 Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP) progress and efforts to the next level by creating three Clean Water Progress Teams of county, state, and federal partners who have volunteered to work together to address the identified challenges (similar to the successful Phase 3 WIP workgroup process). Over the past few years, county partners and state action leaders have been successful in utilizing county-identified programmatic recommendations to address hurdles to success. In 2024, the Progress Teams will be focused on the identified challenges that are faced by all partners. These action items are high level, more specific and require an integrated, in-depth approach to solving. It is important to remember that they will not all be solved in 2024; rather, this effort is a continuation of the work to date and will take time. The enthusiastic response and commitment to these teams that DEP has received from volunteers is encouraging, and a testament to the collaborative nature of the work we've been doing collectively over the last few years. Tackling the biggest challenges and creating "Strategies for Success" to overcome these hurdles is the next natural step in building on Pennsylvania's clean water progress that the partners have made to date.

5. **DCNR** – Drew Gilchrist reported that the 2024 Community Conservation Partnerships Program grant application round opened last week and will remain active until Wednesday, April 3. Last year, the [program awarded more than \\$52 million](#) to more than 225 local and community projects statewide. Those awards will help build or renovate more than 80 local parks, 23 miles of trails, and permanently protect 6,000 acres of land for public recreation. Eligible applicants include local governments and recreation and conservation non-profit organizations. The grants fund:
 - Park and recreation rehabilitation and new development
 - Recreation and conservation planning

- Trail planning and construction
- Land acquisition and conservation
- River access and conservation
- Community and riparian tree planting
- Regional and statewide partnerships to better develop and manage resources

Grant applications are only accepted through [DCNR's Grants Customer Service Portal](#). A [portal tutorial video is availableOpens In A New Window](#) on DCNR's YouTube channel to help potential applicants learn about grant requirements and how to navigate the application interface. DCNR staff are available to assist with answering questions, visiting potential project sites, and developing competitive grant applications. Before starting an application, potential applicants should contact the agency regional advisor who serves the county where their project will be located. Contact information is available on the [Regional Staff Assignment map \(PDF\)](#). Community Conservation Partnerships Program grants have helped permanently protect more than 435,000 acres across Pennsylvania for outdoor recreation, wildlife habitat, and water quality. More than 40 percent of Pennsylvania's 6,200 local parks have received a DCNR grant. For more information, visit [DCNR's Community Conservation Partnerships Program webpage](#).

6. **DCED** – Tree Zuzzio reported that DCED recently completed its Economic Development Strategy, which will be made public in the near future.
7. **PDA** – Deputy Secretary Lisa Graybeal reported that the 2024 Farm Show had a few weather challenges with snow, rain, and flooding. There was record attendance on the last Friday of the show. There was a high level of engagement with legislators. The Conservation Pod was very successful, as well as goat snuggling, and the culinary connection. The FFA had its mid-Winter convention, and 960 FFA students received their jackets. A case of HPAI appeared on Christmas weekend. Lisa reminded how important biosecurity is. High risk flocks came out HPAI negative in the past week. It is the hope that freezing temperatures would encourage birds to finish migrating. Governor Shapiro's budget address will be on February 6, 2024. February 22 is the PDA department hearing with the House; February 27 is the PDA department hearing with the Senate. Farm Bill 2.0 is the updated version of Pennsylvania's original Farm Bill. Farm Bill 2.0 focuses on workforce development and helping farmers learn new technology and conservation programs. Consultants are being hired to assist farmers in finding grant funding and more. PDA is following the Federal, Farm Bill – current one expired at the end of 2023. Some of the most pertinent political topics for 2024 are the presidential election, workforce and trade, and immigration/borders.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 2:29 p.m.

Next Public Meetings: February 20, 2024 – Conference Call

March 12, 2024 -- Public Meeting, In-Person, Harrisburg, PA and
Microsoft Teams

STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION CONFERENCE CALL

Microsoft Teams Conference Call

Tuesday, February 20, 2024 @ 8:30 am

DRAFT MINUTES

Members Present: Secretary Russell Redding; Bevin Buchheister for Acting Secretary Jessica Shirley, DEP; Mike Flinchbaugh; Ron Rohall; Ron Kopp; Don Koontz; Daryl Miller; Drew Gilchrist, DCNR; Denise Coleman, NRCS; Brenda Shambaugh, PACD; Tree Zuzzio, DCED; and Katherine Cason, Penn State.

A. Public Input: None.

B. Agency/Organization Updates

1. DCNR – Drew Gilchrist

The DCNR Community Conservation Partnership Program is now open until April 3, 2024. Municipalities, non-profits and CD are eligible for funding for park development, trails, land acquisition and river conservation work. Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) Secretary Cindy Adams Dunn announced that \$444,364 has been awarded to 12 projects aimed at protecting Pennsylvania’s native resources. “The Shapiro Administration proudly supports these projects, which will protect and conserve the Commonwealth’s native wildlife resources for future generations,” Dunn said. “Protecting Pennsylvania’s vulnerable wildlife species from the impacts of climate change, human impacts, and other threats is the driving principle of the Wild Resource Conservation Program and is central to DCNR’s core mission.” Overseen by DCNR, the [Wild Resource Conservation Program](#) safeguards Pennsylvania’s non-game animals, native plants and their habitat.

Grants are awarded in three areas:

- Species surveys
- Conservation
- Management

Visit DCNR’s website for more information on the [specific projects \(PDF\)](#).

Both River of the Year and Trail of the Year have been selected. The Trails at Jakes Rocks has been named Pennsylvania’s 2024 Trail of the Year. [Trails at Jakes Rocks Selected as Pennsylvania’s 2024 Trail of the Year](#)

[\(pa.gov\)](#) The Allegheny River was named River of the Year [Allegheny River Named Pennsylvania's 2024 River of the Year \(pa.gov\)](#)

Both the Trail and Water Trail will be awarded a \$10,000 grant to promote year long activities and a commemorative poster will be created for both projects.

2. DEP – Deputy Secretary Bevin Buchheister

Chapter 102 Individual NPDES Permit Pilot Program –The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is introducing a Pilot program to evaluate new procedures for streamlining the review of Chapter 102 Individual NPDES Permit applications and improving the quality of applications received. The Department would like to thank the Commission for approving the 102 Delegation Agreement amendment at its January meeting. Since then, nine district boards (Chester, Beaver, Bucks, Lebanon, Lehigh, Luzerne, Monroe, Montgomery and York) have approved signing the 102 Individual NPDES Pilot delegation amendment. Several other districts have indicated their Boards will be considering the Pilot Program at upcoming Board Meetings.

The general intention of the Pilot program is to accept a diverse range of projects so that a broad evaluation of the Pilot can be made upon conclusion. Prior to submission of the application, the owner/developer/applicant and the licensed professional that will prepare the PCSM Plan must schedule and attend two pre-application meetings (virtual or in-person based on availability and at DEP/District's discretion). These meetings cannot be waived. The purpose of these meetings is to ensure a better and more complete application is submitted. This will allow the District to perform the completeness and the technical review simultaneously and in turn shorten the review timeframes.

Phase 3 Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP) Numeric Reporting for 2023 Progress Year Completed- The Chesapeake Bay Partnership Section (CBPS) concluded the 2023 progress reporting year on February 6. For 2023, more than 40 local, state, and federal partners reported 14,535 Best Management Practices (BMPs) into the National Environmental Information Exchange Network (NEIEN) and Chesapeake Assessment Scenario Tool (CAST) Model. The success of data reporting is in large part due to the state and county level partnerships that we have made and continued to build on. This progress year, the CBPS has added a newly approved methodology from Larson Design Group (LDG) to use for reporting specific BMPs in Pennsylvania. The methodology consists of a non-intrusive approach to BMP verification through current and detailed satellite imagery. After months of LDG working on this methodology, this method was approved at the August 2023 Chesapeake Bay Water Quality Goal Implementation Team meeting.

2023 Countywide Action Plan (CAP) Annual Reports, Milestone Updates, and Progress Snapshots available on the website- In 2023, 30 of the 34 counties completed a 2-year milestone update on their Countywide Action Plans (CAPs) where county partners updated their goals and initiative for the next two years. Additionally, all 34 counties completed an annual progress report on their CAP efforts over the past year. Counties who completed a 2-year milestone update also updated their numeric goals on what the county intends to address the nutrient and sediment reductions identified in the Phase 3 Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP). These numeric goals and the progress the counties have made for them are captured in Snapshots that are created by the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Restoration Division in conjunction with the Susquehanna River Basin Commission. All of these finalized documents have been added to the CAP website and are available to the public: [Countywide Action Plans \(pa.gov\)](https://pa.gov).

Clean Water Strategies for Success Progress Team Kickoff Meetings Held

Over the last two weeks, all three Clean Water Progress Teams of state program and county action leaders held their kickoff meetings, with Chesapeake Bay Watershed Restoration Division (CBWRD) staff facilitating the meetings. These three Progress Teams are made up of federal, state, and local partners that participate in prioritizing action items that were identified at the October 2023 Clean Water Gathering. Progress Team focus areas include Technical and Administrative Assistance, Staff Building and Retention, and Funding and Multi-Grant Coordination. Progress team members will meet throughout 2024 to develop “strategies for success” that address the challenges and hurdles to partners, projects, and progress.

On January 29, the Technical and Administrative Assistance Progress Team identified their top five priority action items:

- Engineering assistance
- Streamline and centralize reporting
- Provide more structured approach to private/public partnerships
Increase support and resources for project prioritization and timeline management
- Block permitting applications for watershed or specific project types

On February 8, the Staff Building and Retention Progress Team identified their top five priority action items:

- Management and leadership training
- Diversify staff hires: Hire staff with different backgrounds, not all science and technical degrees
- Regionalization: Regionalize staff, especially for smaller conservation districts and planning commissions
- Cross-train to build on employee knowledge to keep districts and other organizations running when turnover happens

- Allocate dedicated funding annually to counties to stabilize and assure steady workload for staff. Funding for more administrative/program staffing to help manage all of the grants

On February 9, the Funding and Multi-Grant Coordination Progress Team identified their top five priority action items:

- Common application concept/Letters of Interest (LOI)
- Create a central grant spreadsheet
- Leveraging available funding sources more efficiently (i.e. NRCS, PENNVEST, etc.)
- Outreach about financing
- How to connect a project with funding sources

3. NRCS – Denise Coleman

NRCS is in the middle of ranking EQIP applications. With the Act Now initiative for cover crops, NRCS was able to lock up \$30M as part of EQIP allocations. The remainder of \$25M is for Farm Bill and water quality work across Pennsylvania. NRCS is in the midst of registrations for CSP. This involves 5-year contracts and paying for things like advanced nutrient management and other soil testing. NRCS recently held an all-staff meeting. Much work will be done in the next two years with the President's proposal for the Inflation Reduction Act and Climate Smart money. NRCS looks forward to more technical trainings with the Center. NRCS will host two Boot Camp 2 trainings this year due to the high demand. Participants can choose whether they want to focus on the agronomic track or the engineering track.

4. Penn State University – Katherine Cason

Penn State Extension is working with a new budget model with the goal of being more sustainable in the future. Penn State will soon be undergoing academic program reviews within the college and Penn State Extension. Within the new budget model, decisions will be made that are more relevant and will have impacts on residential education and research within the Extension programs. ACAP is going very well. Chris Houser has been working with partners to develop short, medium, and long-term goals for ACAP. Some of the short-term goals include: Expanding the number and frequency of training programs and activities; having conservation career fairs; developing web pages; and providing more outreach.

5. PACD – Brenda Shambaugh

Brenda thanked the Commission and other partners for their support of PACD.

6. DCED – Tree Zuzzio

DCED recently completed an economic development strategy for the state of Pennsylvania. DCED is looking forward to supporting communities, site development, and more.

7. PDA – Secretary Russell Redding

There is an excellent proposal in the Governor’s budget for agriculture. The four core things were funded (food/plants/animals/conservation), in addition to some new things. There are historic investments in economic development, which includes agriculture as a cornerstone industry. An innovation fund is focused around what the SCC is doing with conservation and innovation. Significant changes in dairy farms have occurred over the last five years. Much support is needed for these farms. The Farm Bill is funded again, and REAP is part of this bill. The wisdom of the creation of the SCC is amazing. The SCC plays a major role in the conservation work that is being done in Pennsylvania. This work couldn’t be done without the partnerships with USDA, conservation districts, Penn State University, state agencies, and non-profits. PDA is still hyper-vigilant on HPAI. There have recently been flare ups across Pennsylvania. Spread the word about biosecurity requirements. Much work is being done with the Food Processing Residual (FPR). DEP formed an FPR workgroup. Thank you to all for their support of the SCC.

C. Information and Discussion Items

1. **Statement of Financial Interests - (Doug Wolfgang, SCC) (NA)** – State Conservation Commission members are reminded that as “Public Officials” they are required to complete their Statements of Financial Interests forms as required by state ethics laws. Information will be sent to members in late February and members must complete these forms (online) no later than May 1st.

Conservation District Directors are also considered Public Officials and most District Employees are considered Public Employees. Any Conservation district employee that meets one or more of the criteria in the definition below **MUST** fill out a Statement of Financial Interest. Completing a statement is not optional. It is required by law. For district directors and district employees, statements are to be completed and filed with the Conservation District no later than May 1st. The general rule with this form is “when in doubt, fill it out”.

“Public Official” includes any person (*such as a conservation district director*) appointed by a governmental body (such as the board of county commissioners or the county council)

“Public Employee” includes any individual employed by the Commonwealth or a political subdivision (*like a conservation district*) who is responsible for taking or recommending official action of a non-ministerial nature with regard to: Contracting or procurement;

Administering or monitoring grants or subsidies; Planning or zoning; Inspecting, licensing, regulating, or auditing any person; or Any other activity where the official action has an economic impact of greater than a de minimis nature on the interests of any person.

Conservation district directors and staff can refer to the Director Handbook (pp. 4-6) or the Red Ethics Pamphlet (p. 12-15 & 31-36) for additional information. If you require additional forms go to www.ethics.state.pa.us and click on "forms" on the left side of the page.

2. **Resource Enhancement and Protection Program (REAP) Proposed Changes for FY 24/25 Program Year (Joel Semke, SCC) (NA)** - Each year the Commission reviews the REAP program guidelines and seeks input from partners on how to improve the program. Commission staff will review several suggested changes for the upcoming program year, including best management practice maintenance lifespans, limiting the age of equipment eligible for credits to 20 years or newer, distinguishing drones for use in planting cover crops from those used for spraying, clarifying eligibility of cover crop spreaders, and a potential cap on annual funding to stretch REAP credits to more farmers. A memo with details was distributed to Commission members.
3. **Agriculture Conservation Assistance Program Update – ACAP (Justin Challenger, SCC) (NA)** To date, sixty-six districts have signed delegation agreements with roughly \$151 million in funds committed and over \$50 million obligated to contracts with farm owners for best management practices. HRG Engineering firm is at work with the Center and NRCS to implement job approval authority for conservation district staff and others to design practices. All funds must be spent by the end of 2026. Discussions are under way among commission staff and stakeholder groups on potential sources of dedicated funding that is needed beyond 2026.
4. **Sustainable Ag Board (SAB) – (Mike Roth, SCC) (NA)** - Mike provided an update on the SAB, including an announcement of the board members that have been appointed. The SAB will use funding from EPA's Most Effective Basin (MEB) program to award grants for sustainable agriculture projects and to create a statewide soil health program. The administration has included creation of a soil health program as priority under the Conservation Title of the upcoming federal Farm Bill. The Chesapeake Bay WIP 3 also identifies soil health as a priority for achieving water quality targets. In addition, soil health measures align with climate change adaptation, resiliency, and mitigation goals for agriculture.
5. **General Updates – (Doug Wolfgang, SCC) (NA)** - Doug provided general updates, including a recent meeting with partner organizations and Energy Works Biopower LLC to discuss proposed protocols for manure treatment technologies in the Chesapeake Bay program, updates on the action team to explore a Bay program ag advisory team, and efforts related to a workgroup that has been meeting to address concerns with land application of food processing residuals (FPRs).

6. Next Meeting – March 12, 2024 – Hybrid/In-Person, PDA Building Room 309

7. Adjournment at 9:30 a.m.



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

DATE: February 8, 2024

TO: Members
State Conservation Commission

FROM: Karl J. Dymond, OM Program Coordinator
State Conservation Commission

Handwritten signature of Karl J. Dymond in black ink.

THROUGH: Douglas M. Wolfgang, Executive Secretary
State Conservation Commission

SUBJECT: Odor Management Plan Amendment “B” Review
Nelson H. Auker – Auker Farm, County

Action Requested

Action to approve is requested on the Nelson H. Auker – Auker Farm odor management plan Amendment “B”.

Background

This farm is located at 16 Rehrersburg Road, Bethel, PA 19507; Tulpehocken Township, Berks County.

I have completed the required review of the subject odor management plan (OMP) Amendment “B” (plan amendment) listed above. Final corrections to the plan amendment were received by the State Conservation Commission on February 7, 2024. The plan amendment is considered to be in its final form for consideration of action.

The operation described in this plan is considered the following designations:

- A Concentrated Animal Operation (CAO) under the PA Nutrient and Odor Management Act
- A Voluntary Agricultural Operation (VAO) under the PA Nutrient and Odor Management Act
- A Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) under the Department of Environmental Protection Chapter 92 National Pollution Discharge Elimination System permitting, monitoring and compliance program

A brief description of the operation, concluding with the staff recommendation, is attached. Also attached is a copy of the complete odor management plan for the operation.

Request for Action Memo: Nelson H. Auken – Auken Farm – Amend B OMP

Farm Description

The Nelson H. Auken – Auken Farm agricultural operation is an existing broiler operation and is a proposed swine, cattle and sheep operation. Special agricultural land-use designations for this operation include the following:

- Agricultural Security Area.
- Agricultural Zoning.
- Preserved Farm status under Pennsylvania’s Farmland Preservation Program.
- This operation does not meet any special agricultural land-use designations.

Distance to Nearest Property Line – The distance to the nearest property line is 55 feet for Broiler Barn #1, 73 feet for the Run-in-Shed, 96 feet for the Cattle Shelter and is proposed to be 80 feet for the Sheep Shelter (animal housing facilities). The distance is 45 feet for the manure storage facility.

- A property line setback waiver is required to meet the Nutrient Management Program regulations and is attached to the plan.

Other Livestock Operations – Other Livestock Operations (≥ 8 AEU) located within the Evaluation Distance Area include a dairy operation in the north 1200’ – 1800’ quadrant.

Surrounding Land Use – The surrounding land use for this area is Rural including the predominant terrain features of: rolling hills of open farmland with homes typically along the road frontage.

Assessment**Amendment Changes:**

The original OMP for this site was approved on January 17, 2018. The approved and constructed facilities include: Broiler Barns # 1 & 2.

The Amendment “A” OMP for this site was approved on November 9, 2021. The approved and constructed facilities include: (dual-use) Roofed Mortality Composting & Manure Storage Facility.

This Amendment “B” is for the after-the-fact approval of the Run-in-Shed and Cattle Shelter, and for the approval of the proposed Sheep Shelter, and their related animals.

Animal Housing Facilities:

Existing Facilities – This site does not include any existing animal housing facilities.

Currently Regulated Facilities – The regulated facilities in the January 17, 2018, approved plan include 12,000 (124.1 AEU) in the following animal housing facilities:

- Broiler Barn #1 – 63’ x 500’ – 36,000-broiler capacity
- Broiler Barn #2 – 63’ x 500’ – 36,000-broiler capacity

Request for Action Memo: Nelson H. Auker – Auker Farm – Amend B OMP

- Transferred AEU's Note – 60,000 broilers (120.51 AEU's) were transferred from the existing animal housing facilities, which were torn down for the construction of Broiler Barns #1 & 2.

Currently Regulated Facilities – The regulated facilities in the November 9, 2021, approved Amendment “A” OMP include no new animals (but an increase of 6.11 AEU's due to a weight change); no new animal housing facilities were constructed.

Proposed Regulated Facilities – This Amendment “B” OMP proposes the expansion of the operation with no broilers (4.21 AEU increase to more birds being raised as heavy broilers), 15 finishing beef (14.25 AEU's), 2 finishing swine (0.33 AEU's), 20 ewe sheep (3.5 AEU's), 20 lambs (0.39 AEU's), and 1 ram (0.23 AEU's) in the following animal housing facilities:

- Cattle Shelter – 12' x 40' (lean-to style facility built off of the Equipment Shed) – already constructed (after-the-fact approval request)
- Run-in-Shelter – 12' x 20' (for swine and cattle use) – already constructed (after-the-fact approval request)
- Sheep Shelter – 35' x 30'

Manure Storage Facilities:

Existing Facilities – This site does not include any existing manure storage facilities.

Currently Regulated Facilities – The January 17, 2018, approved plan does not include any manure storage facilities for this site.

Currently Regulated Facilities – The regulated facilities in the November 9, 2021, approved Amendment “A” OMP include the following manure storage facility:

- Mortality Composting & Manure Storage Facility – 24' x 27' x 17' (hoop-style roof with concrete walls and floor).

Proposed Regulated Facilities – This Amendment “B” OMP does not include a proposed expansion of the manure storage facilities for this site.

Odor Site Index

On January 3, 2024, Ir performed a site assessment of the surrounding houses and businesses in the ‘Evaluation Distance Area’ to confirm the buildings identified on the plan map.

The confirmed Odor Site Index value for this operation indicates a high potential for impacts with a score of 135.9. Due to the high potential for impacts, the appropriate Level I Odor BMPs for a broiler, cattle, swine & sheep operation are required and are properly identified in the plan. The proposed plan provides adequate detail and direction for facilitating the operator’s Implementation and Operation & Maintenance of these required Odor BMPs, as well as the necessary documentation needed to demonstrate compliance with the plan and regulations.

Odor Management Plan Amendment (B)

Prepared For:

Nelson H. Auker – Auker Farm
16 Rehrersburg Road
Bethel, PA 19507
717-644-7219

County/ Municipality: Berks/ Tulpehocken Twp

Mailing Address (if Different from Site Address)

Prepared By:

Melissa Rubano
R&R Engineering, LLC
OM Certification # 115-OMC
3423 Eckley Road
Petersburg, PA 16669
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Melissa@rreng.net

For Official Use Only	
Date of Plan Submission:	<u>December 18, 2023</u>
Date of Plan Approval:	_____
Date(s) of Plan Updates (not requiring SCC action):	_____

Table of Contents

Nelson H. Auker – Auker Farm Odor Management Plan

Planner and Operator Commitments & Responsibilities	4
Plan Development Requirements.....	4
Planner Signature & Agreement	4
<i>OMP Amendment Name:</i>	5
Operator Requirements	5
Odor Management Plan Signature Requirements.....	5
Operator Signature & Agreement	5
Plan Summary.....	6
A. Operation Summary (see Appendix 1 to view complete Operation Information).....	6
Proposed Facilities:.....	6
Currently Regulated Facilities:	7
B. Odor Site Index Summary (see Appendix 3 to view complete Index).....	7
C. Odor BMP Implementation, Operation & Maintenance Schedule	7
Level I Odor BMPs Principles.....	7
Level I Odor BMPs to be Implemented.....	8
Level II Odor BMPs to be Implemented:	12
D. Documentation Requirements.....	14
Level I Odor BMP Documentation Requirements.....	14
Level II Odor BMP Documentation Requirements	16
Odor BMP Implementation Commitment Statement	18
OMP Amendment Name:	18
Level I Odor BMPs Principles.....	18
Odor Management Plan Requirements	18
Level I Odor BMPs – Maintenance Log YEAR	19
Level II Odor BMPs – Quarterly Observation Log YEAR.....	20
LEVEL II ODOR BMP NAME:.....	20
Appendix 1: Operation Information.....	21
Part A: Odor Source Factors.....	23
Existing Facilities Description:.....	23
Currently Regulated Facilities:	23
Proposed Regulated Facility(ies) Description:	24
Part B: Site Land Use Factors.....	27
Part C: Surrounding Area Land Use Factors	27

Act 38 of 2005, Odor Management Plan Amendment

Appendix 2: Operational Maps 29
 Topographic Map 29
 Site Map 29
Appendix 3: Plan Evaluation – OSI 30
Appendix 4: Biosecurity 31
 Biosecurity Protocol Contact Information 31
Appendix 5: Supporting Documentation 32

Act 38 of 2005, Odor Management Plan Amendment

Planner and Operator Commitments & Responsibilities

Plan Development Requirements

This odor management plan (OMP) has been developed to meet the requirements of Pennsylvania's Nutrient and Odor Management Act, Act 38 of 2005 (Act 38), for the State Conservation Commission's (Commission) Odor Management Program for the following farm type(s): **NOTE: Select all check-boxes that apply.**

- Pennsylvania Act 38 Concentrated Animal Operation (CAO)
- Pennsylvania CAFO (Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) program
- Odor Management Program Volunteer Animal Operation (VAO)

Planner Signature & Agreement

The planner's signature below certifies that this plan was developed in conjunction with, and reviewed by the operator, prior to submitting it for review. The plan cannot be submitted until the operator understands and agrees with all the provisions of the plan. If the reviewer finds that the planner has not reviewed at least the Plan Summary with the farmer, then the plan reviewer is to relay that information to the certification program staff for their consideration.

The planner's signature and below date(s) certifies that a site visit(s) was conducted **by an Act 38 Certified Odor Management Specialist** to verify the criteria within the evaluation distance area at the time of developing the plan, specifically for the odor source(s), for locating houses, churches, businesses and public use facilities within the evaluation distance, as well as for the site land use and the surrounding land use factors.

The information contained in this plan is accurate to the best of my knowledge. This plan has been developed in accordance with the criteria established for the Act 38 Odor Management Program indicated above. I affirm the foregoing to be true and correct, and make these statements subject to the penalties of 18 Pa. C.S. § 4904, relating to unsworn falsification to authorities.

Planner Name: Melissa Rubano Certification number: 115-OMC
 Signature of Planner: Melissa Rubano Date: 12/09/2023
 Date(s) Evaluation Distance Area Site Visit Conducted: 09/07/2023

OMP Amendment Name: Nelson H. Auker – Auker Farm

Operator Requirements

Plan Implementation & Documentation: Odor Management Plans developed under Act 38 are required to be implemented as approved in order to maintain compliance. Implementation includes: adherence to installation of listed Odor Best Management Practices (Odor BMPs) within implementation schedule timeframes and conditions; maintenance of the Odor BMPs consistent with the operation and maintenance schedule timeframes; conditions contained in this plan; and record keeping obligations of the program. Agricultural operations are also required to keep and maintain accurate records of the Odor BMPs consistent with the schedules and are required to allow the Commission access to those records in order to determine the compliance status.

Post Construction Inspection: Prior to utilizing a new or expanded animal housing facility or manure storage facility addressed in this plan, the operation must receive written approval from the Commission confirming implementation of the plan. In order to obtain this written approval the operator, upon completion of construction activities, must inform the Commission in writing via certified mail of their desire to begin using the new or expanded regulated facilities. At that time the Commission will send out a representative to assess and verify the implementation of the approved Odor Management Plan.

Compliance Inspections: Plans developed under this program also require agricultural operations to allow periodic access by the Commission for status review and complaint inspections, in order to determine the status of the operation's compliance and whether a plan amendment is required. Inspections will be scheduled at least annually. Agricultural operations will provide the operation's biosecurity contact and protocols to the Commission.

Odor Management Plan Signature Requirements

In accordance with §83.741(i), plans shall be signed by the *Operator/ Authorized Representative* of the agricultural operation indicating concurrence with the information in the plan and acceptance of responsibilities under the plan. The following signature requirements apply:

- (i) For sole proprietorships, the proprietor.
- (ii) For partnerships, a general partner.
- (iii) For corporations, a vice president or president. For any other authorized representative, the plan must contain an attachment, executed by the secretary of the corporation, which states that the person signing on behalf of the corporation is authorized to do so.

NOTE: When using a business name for the plan, the business name must be registered with the Pennsylvania Department of State.

Operator Signature & Agreement

In accordance with §§83.751 (content of plans) and 83.762 (operator commitment statement), the *Signature of Operator/ Authorized Representative* below certifies that I was involved with the development of this plan, that the plan writer reviewed the plan with me, and that I am agreeable to the provisions outlined in this plan. All the information I provided in this odor management plan is accurate to the best of my knowledge and I will implement the practices and procedures outlined in the odor management plan in order to manage the potential for impacts from the offsite migration of odors associated with the operation for which this OMP is written.

Indicate business entity type: Sole Proprietor Partnership/ LP/ LLP Corporation/ LLC

Signature of Operator/ Authorized Representative:

Nelson A Date: 12/01/2023

Print Name of Operator/ Authorized Representative: Nelson Auker

Title of Operator/ Authorized Representative: Owner/operator

Business Legal Name of the Operation: N/A

Plan Summary

Clearly detail why an amendment to the approved plan is required.

The significant changes which require an Amendment to the Odor Management Plan are the replacement of some of the Level II BMP Vegetated Buffers with Windbreak Walls, the addition of Poultry Litter Amendment as a required Level II BMP, Vegetative Buffers for Screening as a supplemental Level II BMP, the change in the Level I BMP of litter maintenance, the increase in AEU's of the poultry (see appendix 5 for detailed notes on how the AEU's have changed), the proposal to use the run-in shed as animal housing for finishing swine, the addition of finishing beef cattle (to be housed in a section of what originally was the mortality composting facility before the new mortality composting facility was constructed) and the addition of a herd of sheep to be housed in a proposed 3-sided shelter.

A. Operation Summary (see Appendix 1 to view complete Operation Information)

Proposed Facilities:

Detail the Animal Type associated with the Proposed Facilities and consistent with the Animal Type detailed in the OSI. If animal numbers (AEUs) from existing facilities are voluntarily being added to the plan, detail the AEU's number; otherwise state "None", "Zero (0)" or "Not Applicable".

NOTE: AEU calculations and AEU's per acre calculation must reflect those in the most current Act 38 NMP, otherwise explain the difference and submit the calculations in Appendix 5: Supporting Documentation.

Proposed OSI Animal Type:	Heavy Broilers; Finishing Beef Cattle; Finishing Swine; Ewe Sheep; Lambs; Ram Sheep
Proposed Animal Numbers:	Heavy Broilers – no more animals proposed but both barns may be populated with heavy rather than light broilers – see appendix 5; 15; 2; 20; 20; 1
Proposed AEU's (per animal type):	4.21; 14.25; 0.33; 3.50; 0.39; 0.23
Voluntary Existing Animal Type:	0
Voluntary Existing AEU's (per animal type):	0
Regulated AEU's under Previous Plan(s): <i>(Associated with Currently Regulated Facilities below)</i>	Original plan approved 01/17/2018 = 24.1; Amendment A approved 11/09/2021 = 30.21
Total AEU's Covered by this Plan:	53.12
AEU's per acre for the operation:	173.64

Is there an approved Act 38 NMP for this operation? Yes No

NOTE: If No, explain in Appendix 5: Supporting Documentation.

Currently Regulated Facilities:

Detail in the tables below, each regulated animal housing facility and/or manure storage facility that was previously approved and is already constructed. Detail the Dates and AEU's separately (copy & paste) for each previously approved plan or amendment.

Plan Approval Date: 01/17/2018 Currently Regulated AEU's: 24.1

Plan Approval Date: 11/09/2021 Currently Regulated AEU's: 30.21

Animal Housing Facility <input type="checkbox"/> None	Dimensions	Livestock Capacity
Broiler Barn #1	63' x 500'	38,500 = max capacity with light broilers; 29,500 = max capacity with heavy broilers
Broiler Barn #2	63' x 500'	38,500 = max capacity with light broilers; 29,500 = max capacity with heavy broilers

Manure Storage Facility <input type="checkbox"/> None	Dimensions	Usable Capacity
Mortality Composting/Manure Storage Facility	24' x 27' x 17'	3,888cuft assuming max stacking height of 6' and not accounting for side-slope of the stack

B. Odor Site Index Summary (see Appendix 3 to view complete Index)

NOTE: If multiple Geographic Centers are used, you must provide scores for each geographic center. Scores listed here must match the final scores in the OSI.

Score: 135.9

C. Odor BMP Implementation, Operation & Maintenance Schedule

NOTE: All Required Odor BMPs from previous approved plans or plan amendments, which are still applicable to its associated regulated facility, must be identified below in addition to any proposed Odor BMPs associated with this plan amendment. If specific Odor BMPs that were previously approved no longer apply to this site specific scenario, contact Odor Management program staff to identify and discuss this operational change prior to submitting the plan amendment.

Level I Odor BMPs Principles

1. Steps taken to reduce dust and feed accumulation in pens, aisles, and on animals.
2. Manage ventilation to provide sufficient fresh airflow throughout the facility to keep animals and facility surfaces clean and dry.
3. Manage manure to minimize damp, exposed manure that contributes to odor generation.
4. Remove mortalities daily and manage appropriately.
5. Manage feed nutrients to animal nutrient requirements in order to avoid excess nutrient excretion.
6. Manage manure storage facility to reduce exposed surface area and off-site odor transfer.

Definitions:

- **Required Odor BMPs** – In accordance with §§83.771, 83.781-83.783, Required Odor BMPs are the Odor BMPs required for implementation when there is a neighboring facility or a public use facility in the evaluation distance area, or when the OSI score is 50 or more points (Level I Odor BMPs), and when the OSI score is 100 or more points (Level II Odor BMPs).

Act 38 of 2005, Odor Management Plan Amendment

- **Voluntary Odor BMPs** – The operator has voluntarily chosen to include Odor BMPs in the plan. Voluntary Odor BMPs must meet the same program standards that Required Odor BMPs do for implementation, operation, maintenance, and documentation.
- **Supplemental Odor BMPs** – In accordance with §83.781(e), Supplemental Odor BMPs are implemented in addition to the approved Odor BMPs in the plan and are also associated with plan updates.

NOTE: Odor BMPs must be relevant to the site specific situation and must be maintained for the lifetime of the regulated facility unless otherwise approved.

Level I Odor BMPs to be Implemented

Select each check-box that applies; if more than one category applies, clearly detail the respective Level I Odor BMPs criteria with each respective category. Detail below all Level I Odor BMPs Principles, adapted from the PA Odor BMP Reference List, that are applicable to the site specific factors of this animal operation and the regulated facilities.

- None Required**
- Voluntary Level I Odor BMP:**
- Required Level I Odor BMP:**
- Supplemental Level I Odor BMP:**

Broiler Barns Level I Odor BMPs:

1. Steps taken to reduce dust and feed accumulation in pens, aisles and on animals.

- a. Feed Wastage – feeding equipment will be adjusted to ensure the appropriate flow rate of feed into the feeder. Feeder height will be checked daily and raised as needed to match the height of the birds. Feed junction boxes will be monitored daily for malfunction.
- b. Dust Control – Fans are cleaned with a blower between flocks and are power washed annually. Static pressure monitors are calibrated daily by computer. The cool cell panel is cleaned and maintained annually. Tunnel doors inside the barn are cleaned between flocks.
- c. Feed Cleanup - Feed spills will be removed daily.

2. Ventilation is managed to provide sufficient airflow throughout the facility to keep animals and facility surfaces clean and dry.

Ventilation components – Ventilation system components including computer controls, static pressure meters, cool cell intake panel, tunnel doors and exhaust fans will be checked daily for functionality. The ventilation system is designed to provide appropriate ventilation throughout the year. As ambient temperature increases, ventilation rate will be automatically increased via staged ventilation. The cool cell intake panel and tunnel doors within the barns will be automatically controlled by a static pressure monitor or by temperature, which will also be integrated into the computer controls.

3. Manure will be managed to provide sufficient airflow throughout the facility to keep animals and facility surfaces clean and dry.

Moisture control – Water delivery system and drinkers will be checked daily for leaks. Repairs will be performed as needed. The height of the nipple waterers will be inspected and adjusted daily to ensure that birds are always reaching up to waterers.

Litter maintenance – The litter is managed with a combination of 2 methods. The preferred method is called

“housekeeping” and is used for \approx 4 flocks/year. The other method is “composting” and is used for \approx 2 flocks/year. **Housekeeping method:** a machine is run through the barn which picks up the litter and sorts out the crust and wet layers and returns the dry sifted litter to be reused. A layer of the powder Poultry Litter Treatment (commercially known as PLT or A-7) – designed to lower pH and eliminate ammonia) is broadcast over the sifted litter within hours of the next flock being brought in. This method is preferred over composting because it produces less odor at cleanout, takes less time, generates less waste at cleanout (24 tons), provides a more comfortable environment for the birds and eliminates the need for more bedding to be added. If disease or pests are detected in a flock, the entire barn will be cleaned out and disinfected. When this happens the compost method must be used for at least 2 flocks because a large amount of shavings are needed to re-bed the entire barn and the housekeeping method would “sort” out the shavings resulting in a financial loss. **Compost method:** after each flock a litter windrower makes 3 windrows out of the litter. After 2-3 days, the windrows are turned – this happens 3 times which allows sufficient heating of all the material in the windrows to eliminate disease and pests. Two days after the third turning, the litter is flattened out and reused for the next flock. A layer of the powder Poultry Litter Treatment (commercially known as PLT or A-7) – designed to lower pH and eliminate ammonia) is broadcast over the sifted litter within hours of the next flock being brought in.

Complete cleanout of the barns will occur once a year or when required by the integrator due to disease or pests. When litter is removed from the barn it is immediately exported via a broker.

4. Mortalities will be removed daily and managed appropriately.

Mortalities are removed daily during the walk through and placed in the roofed Mortality Composting/Manure Storage Facility. Mortalities are immediately covered with the composting substrate such that no part of the carcass is visible. Currently, some poultry litter is stacked in a corner of the Mortality Composting/Manure Storage Facility to be used as substrate for the composting. Cattle, swine and sheep bedpack, once the different animal groups are on-site, will be used as substrate in the Mortality Composting/Manure Storage Facility. The mortality compost is exported as-needed, but at least once/year to a neighbor for land application.

5. Feed nutrients will be matched to animal nutrient requirements to avoid excess nutrient excretion. Phase feeding – diets are formulated by the integrator to match the bird age and weights.

6. Manage manure storage facility to reduce exposed surface area and off-site odor transfer.

Minimize storage volume – Export the manure at least once/year or as-needed.

Manage surface water –

- a. Surface Water Run-on - Surface water will be kept from entering the Mortality Composting/Manure Storage Facility by maintaining the grade around the structure
- b. Effluent Run-off from facility - Maintain the roof and side walls of the structure. If effluent forms,

and if needed to prevent the effluent from leaving the facility, dry material will be mixed in to absorb moisture and prevent run-off.

Manure Storage Area Cleanliness - A visual inspection will be completed in conjunction with any manure transport activities to ensure scattered manure cleaned up in a timely fashion and any manure accumulated on the concrete apron outside of facility is pushed into the facility.

Cattle and Swine Shelter and Run-in Shed Level I Odor BMPs:

1. Steps taken to reduce dust and feed accumulation in pens, aisles, and on animals.

a. Feed Preparation and Handling: Hay, grain and other feed ingredients will be stored in bins or barrels with lids in a dry location.

b. Feed Wastage: The finishing cattle will be fed in feed troughs with only as much given as they can eat to prevent feed from accumulating and being wasted. Hay will be provided in a hay rack and any uneaten hay will become part of the bedding and will be removed when the shelter is cleaned out. The finishing hogs will be fed in troughs or buckets with only as much given as they can eat to prevent feed from accumulating and being wasted.

c. Cleaning and Sanitation: The aisleways inside the Cattle Shelter will be swept as-needed or annually.

2. Ventilation is managed to provide sufficient fresh airflow throughout the facility to keep animals and facility surfaces clean and dry.

a. Natural Ventilation – Both the Cattle Shelter and the Run-in shed have enough openings to provide adequate fresh air while minimizing drafts so that aisles, pen surfaces, and animals remain relatively free of manure.

3. Manure will be managed to minimize damp, exposed manure that contributes to odor generation.

a. Controlling Accumulated Manure:

The finishing cattle and swine will be managed on a bedded pack. Bedding will be added as-needed to keep the animals dry. The bedded pack will be cleaned out semi-annually or as-needed depending on how much the animals are on pasture and the weather conditions.

b. Moisture Control:

A water trough is located inside the Cattle Shelter and is filled manually. The trough is checked daily for leaks. Any damage to the trough will be repaired immediately.

A water trough for the animals in the Run-in Shed is located in the pasture and will not impact the bedded pack.

4. Mortalities will be removed daily and managed appropriately.

Swine mortalities are taken to the Mortality Composting/Manure Storage Facility and placed on a carbon-rich composting substrate (usually broiler litter or bedpack manure) bed that is at least 2' deep and covered with at least 2' of composting substrate so that no part of the carcass is visible. Composting substrate will be added as-needed to the mortality composting pile so that no part of the decomposing animal is left exposed. Currently, some poultry litter is stacked in a corner of the Mortality Composting/Manure Storage Facility to be used as substrate for the composting. Cattle, swine and sheep bedpack, once the different animal groups are on-site, will be used as substrate in the Mortality Composting/Manure Storage Facility. The mortality compost is exported as-needed but at least once/year to a neighbor for land application.

Act 38 of 2005, Odor Management Plan Amendment

- Cattle mortalities will be taken to a neighboring dairy farm for composting.

5. Manage feed nutrients to animal nutrient requirements to prevent excess nutrient excretion.

- The cattle and swine will be fed in an amount appropriate for their needs.

6. Manage manure storage facility to reduce exposed surface area and off-site odor transfer.

Minimize storage volume – Export the manure at least once/year or as-needed.

Manage surface water –

- c. Surface Water Run-on - Surface water will be kept from entering the Mortality Composting/Manure Storage Facility by maintaining the grade around the structure
- d. Effluent Run-off from facility - Maintain the roof and side walls of the structure. If effluent forms, and if needed to prevent the effluent from leaving the facility, dry material will be mixed in to absorb moisture and prevent run-off.

Manure Storage Area Cleanliness - A visual inspection will be completed in conjunction with any manure transport activities to ensure scattered manure is cleaned up in a timely fashion and any manure accumulated on the concrete apron outside of facility is pushed into the facility.

Sheep Shelter Level I Odor BMPs:

1. Steps taken to reduce dust and feed accumulation in pens, aisles, and on animals.

- a. Feed Preparation and Handling: Hay, grain and other feed ingredients will be stored in a dry location in bins or barrels with lids.
- b. Feed Wastage: The sheep will be fed in fed troughs with only as much given as they can eat to prevent feed from accumulating and being wasted. Hay will be provided in a hay rack and any uneaten hay will become part of the bedding and will be removed when the shelter is cleaned out.
- c. Cleaning and Sanitation: Aisleways inside the Sheep Shelter will be swept as-needed or annually.

2. Ventilation is managed to provide sufficient fresh airflow throughout the facility to keep animals and facility surfaces clean and dry.

Natural Ventilation – The Sheep Shelter is planned to be 3-sided allowing adequate fresh air to enter while minimizing drafts so that aisles, pen surfaces, and animals remain relatively free of manure.

3. Manure will be managed to minimize damp, exposed manure that contributes to odor generation.

- a. Controlling Accumulated Manure: The sheep will be managed on a bedded pack. Bedding will be added as-needed to keep the animals dry. The bedded pack will be cleaned out semi-annually or as-needed depending on how much the animals are on pasture and the weather conditions.
- b. Moisture Control: A water trough will be located inside the Sheep Shelter and is filled manually. The trough is checked daily for leaks. Any damage to the trough will be repaired immediately.

4. Mortalities will be removed daily and managed appropriately.

Sheep mortalities are taken to the Mortality Composting/Manure Storage Facility and placed on a carbon-rich composting substrate (usually broiler litter or bedpack manure) bed that is at least 2' deep and covered with at least 2' of composting substrate so that no part of the carcass is visible. Composting substrate will be added as-needed to the mortality composting pile so that no part of the decomposing animal is left exposed.

Currently, some poultry litter is stacked in a corner of the Mortality Composting/Manure Storage Facility to be used as substrate for the composting. Cattle, swine and sheep bedpack, once the different animal groups are on-site, will be used as substrate in the Mortality Composting/Manure Storage Facility. The mortality compost is exported as-needed but at least once/year to a neighbor for land application.

5. Manage feed nutrients to animal nutrient requirements to prevent excess nutrient excretion.

- a. The sheep will be fed in an amount appropriate for their needs.

6. Manage manure storage facility to reduce exposed surface area and off-site odor transfer.

Minimize storage volume – Export the manure at least once/year or as-needed.

Manage surface water –

- Surface Water Run-on - Surface water will be kept from entering the Mortality Composting/Manure Storage Facility by maintaining the grade around the structure
- Effluent Run-off from facility - Maintain the roof and side walls of the structure. If effluent forms, and if needed to prevent the effluent from leaving the facility, dry material will be mixed in to absorb moisture and prevent run-off.

Manure Storage Area Cleanliness - A visual inspection will be completed in conjunction with any manure transport activities to ensure scattered manure is cleaned up in a timely fashion and any manure accumulated on the concrete apron outside of facility is pushed into the facility.

Level II Odor BMPs to be Implemented:

Select each check-box that applies; if more than one category applies, clearly detail the respective Level II Odor BMPs criteria with each respective category. Detail below all Level II Odor BMPs criteria addressing the following:

1. the general construction and implementation criteria
2. the corresponding timeframes of when each Odor BMP will be implemented
3. all operation and maintenance procedures for each Odor BMP along with the corresponding timeframes for carrying out those procedures
4. the lifespan of each Odor BMP.

***NOTE:** NRCS Conservation Practice Standards and Job Sheets that are in existence for the Level II Odor BMP are encouraged to be used for construction, implementation, and operation and maintenance criteria.*

- None Required**
- Voluntary Level II Odor BMP:**
- Required Level II Odor BMP:**
- Supplemental Level II Odor BMP:**

Required Level II Odor BMPs:

Windbreak Walls

Windbreak walls are barriers constructed downwind of fans in animal housing facilities to reduce the forward momentum of airflow, settle out dust particles and push the exiting plume higher into the atmosphere in order to encourage mixing. (this description was adapted from: Harmon, Jay D. and Hoff, Steven J. Iowa (2014) Animal Housing – Barriers Overview. Iowa State University, AMPAT 01)

Implementation:

1. Timeframe

Mr. Auken plans to install 6 separate Windbreak Walls to replace vegetative Shelterbelts that have

failed. The construction of the walls is anticipated to be completed by March 1, 2024.

2. Location and Layout

Four of the walls will be located on the north end of Broiler Barns #1 and #2. Each of these walls will be 33' long and 6' high but will be placed up the sloped bank on the property line to be about 8' high when measured from the bottom of the fans. One will be located on the north east end of Broiler Barn #1 (55' long and 6' high and constructed on an existing bank to be about 8' high when measured from the bottom of the fans) and one will be located on the north west end of Broiler Barn #2 (35' long and 6' high) (see Close-view map #1 for details of wall placement and lengths). The Walls will be constructed of solid wood boards and post to form a solid fence. The Walls will vary in length but will be long enough to extend 10' past the end of the fans on both sides. The Walls will be positioned about 50' out from the fans.

Operation and Maintenance for Windbreak Walls:

- a. Inspections – inspect the walls semi-annually for any loose boards or holes that may have formed in the walls. After severe weather (high winds or significant rainfall), inspect the walls for any downed trees or limbs that may cause damage.
- b. Replace or repair damaged boards/posts as they are discovered.
- c. The Windbreak Walls will be maintained and replaced if necessary for the lifetime of the regulated facilities.

Poultry Litter Amendment – A powder applied over bedding or existing litter that is known to lower pH and reduce ammonia odors.

Implementation:

The amendment (PLT or A-7 commercially) is broadcast over the prepared bedding after performing “housekeeping” or “composting” litter management within hours of the new flock arriving. If the brand of litter amendment is changed, the Odor Management Plan will be updated with the new information.

Operation and Maintenance for Poultry Litter Amendment:

- a. Inspections – inspect the layer of amendment after placement to assure complete coverage of the litter
- b. Poultry Litter Amendment will be used in the barns before each flock for as long as the barns are in operation.

Supplemental Level II Odor BMPs:

Vegetative Buffers for Screening

Implementation

1. Location and Layout

Vegetative Buffer #1: a single line of trees (Green Emerald Arborvitae) was planted along the

property line west of the run-in shed and cattle shelter extending from the southern property line and going 142' north along the property line.

Vegetative Buffer #2: a single line of trees (Green Giant Arborvitae) was planted along the property line east of broiler barn #1 extending from behind his house and going 278' north along the property line.

Vegetative Buffer #3: a single line of trees (Green Giant Arborvitae) was planted 58' east of the southeast corner of Broiler Barn #1. The line of trees curves slightly and starts about 20' south of the southeast corner of broiler barn #1 and extends north for a total of 54'. Refer to Close-view map #2 and #3 for the location of each of the Vegetative Buffers.

2. Timeframe

The trees for each of the buffers were established in Fall of 2019.

Operation and Maintenance for Vegetative Buffers for screening

- a. Inspections – inspect the vegetative buffer for screening components weekly during the growing season and protect from damage so proper function is maintained
- b. Replace Dead Stock – replace dead or dying plants as discovered or, if discovered during the non-growing season, replace as soon as conditions permit during the next planting season.
- c. Competing Vegetation – control competing vegetation either mechanically, chemically or with mulch to allow proper establishment and growth
- d. Irrigation – monitor weather conditions with regards to rainfall and begin supplemental irrigation as-needed to maintain the health and viability of the plantings.

D. Documentation Requirements

The following information will be documented by the Operator for each Odor BMP to ensure compliance with the plan. Documentation is needed to demonstrate implementation of the plan as well as for corrective actions taken for significant maintenance activities needed to return an Odor BMP back to normal operating parameters.

Level I Odor BMP Documentation Requirements

Select each check-box that applies; if more than one category applies, clearly detail each documentation criterion.

None Required – (*NOTE: Delete the Odor BMP Implementation Commitment Statement and the Level I Maintenance Log*)

Level I Odor BMPs – Odor BMP Implementation Commitment Statement Only

The Operator will annually complete the Odor BMP Implementation Commitment Statement.

Level I Odor BMP Documentation Criteria:

The Operator will annually complete the 'Odor BMP Implementation Commitment Statement'. The Operator will also complete the Level I Odor BMPs Maintenance Log upon any of the following occurrences:

Broiler Barns:

1. Steps taken to reduce dust and feed accumulation in pens, aisles and on animals.

- a. Document occurrences when the feeders were not adjusted properly and corrective actions taken.

Act 38 of 2005, Odor Management Plan Amendment

- b. Document occurrences when spilled feed was not cleaned up promptly and corrective actions taken.
- 2. Ventilation is managed to provide sufficient airflow throughout the facility to keep animals and facility surfaces clean and dry.**
 - a. Document occurrences when the ventilation system malfunctions and corrective actions taken.
 - b. Document any discrepancies with the cleaning process/protocol and the corrective action taken.
- 3. Manure will be managed to provide sufficient airflow throughout the facility to keep animals and facility surfaces clean and dry.**
 - a. Document occurrences when the protocol for the “housekeeping” or “composting” methods for litter management were not followed as described and corrective actions taken.
 - b. Document occurrences when the litter was not able to be kept dry due to ventilation malfunction or other situation and corrective actions taken.
- 4. Mortalities will be removed daily and managed appropriately.**
 - a. Document occurrences when mortalities were not removed within the day they occurred and corrective actions taken.
 - b. Document occurrences when the mortality composting process was interrupted and corrective actions taken.
- 5. Feed nutrients will be matched to animal nutrient requirements to avoid excess nutrient excretion.**
 - a. Document occurrences when the phase feeding was not formulated correctly or was not carried out correctly and corrective actions taken.
- 6. Manage mortality composting facility to reduce exposed surface area and off-site odor transfer.**
 - a. Document occurrences when the mortality compost was not cleaned out on schedule and corrective actions taken.
 - b. Document occurrences when surface water entered the composting facility or effluent run-off left the facility and corrective actions taken.
 - c. Document occurrences when compost was not promptly cleaned from the concrete apron and corrective actions taken.

Cattle Shelter, Run-in shed and Sheep Shelter:

- 1. Steps taken to reduce dust and feed accumulation in pens, aisles and on animals.**
 - a. Document occurrences when stored feed was disturbed in storage creating spilled feed or wet feed and corrective actions taken.
 - b. Document occurrences when excess grain feed was left uneaten and corrective actions taken.
 - c. Document occurrences when sweeping of aiseways did not occur when needed and corrective actions taken.
- 2. Ventilation is managed to provide sufficient airflow throughout the facility to keep animals and facility surfaces clean and dry.**
 - a. Document occurrences when the ventilation system malfunctions and corrective actions taken.
 - b. Document any discrepancies with the cleaning process/protocol and the corrective action taken.

Act 38 of 2005, Odor Management Plan Amendment

3. **Manure will be managed to provide sufficient airflow throughout the facility to keep animals and facility surfaces clean and dry.**
 - a. Document occurrences when the natural ventilation failed causing a lack of fresh air and corrective actions.
 - b. Document occurrences when the bedpack was not able to be kept dry due to ventilation malfunction or other situation and corrective actions taken.
4. **Mortalities will be removed daily and managed appropriately.**
 - a. Document occurrences when mortalities were not removed within 24 hours and corrective actions taken.
 - b. Document occurrences when the mortality composting (swine and sheep) process was interrupted and corrective actions taken.
 - c. Document occurrences when dead cattle could not be taken to the neighboring farm for composting and corrective actions taken.
5. **Feed nutrients will be matched to animal nutrient requirements to avoid excess nutrient excretion.**
 - a. Document occurrences when the feeding regime did not properly match the animal needs and corrective actions taken.
6. **Manage mortality composting facility to reduce exposed surface area and off-site odor transfer.**
 - a. Document occurrences when the mortality compost was not cleaned out on schedule and corrective actions taken.
 - b. Document occurrences when surface water entered the composting facility or effluent run-off left the facility and corrective actions taken.
 - c. Document occurrences when compost was not promptly cleaned from the concrete apron and corrective actions taken.

Level II Odor BMP Documentation Requirements

Select each check-box that applies; if more than one category applies, clearly detail each documentation criterion.

None Required – (NOTE: Delete the Level II Quarterly Observation Log)

Level II Odor BMP Documentation Criteria:

The Operator will complete the Level II Odor BMPs Quarterly Observation Log, at least on a quarterly basis, detailing the proper implementation of the Odor BMPs as identified in the Implementation, Operation & Maintenance Schedule. The Operator will also complete the Level II Odor BMPs Quarterly Observation Log upon any of the following occurrences:

Windbreak Walls

Implementation:

- a. Document when the walls were installed.
- b. Document via a plan update, any changes to the Dimensions and Location and Layout of the as-built walls.

Operation and Maintenance:

- c. Document occurrences when the walls were damaged and corrective actions taken.
- d. Document occurrences when damaged boards or posts were not replaced or repaired promptly

and corrective actions taken.

Poultry Litter Amendment

Implementation:

- a. Document occurrences when the poultry litter amendment placement did not achieve full coverage of the litter and corrective actions taken
- b. Document occurrences when the poultry litter amendment was not put in place and corrective actions taken
- c. Document via a plan update, when the brand of the Poultry Litter Amendment changes.

Vegetative Buffers for Screening

Implementation:

The Arborvitae were planted in Fall 2019.

Operation and Maintenance:

- a. Document occurrences when a tree in the buffer dies and corrective actions taken.
- b. Document occurrences when a dead or dying tree was not replaced as soon as the growing conditions allow and corrective actions taken.
- c. Document occurrences when competing vegetation was not controlled such that it interrupted the growth of the trees and corrective action taken.
- d. Document occurrences when drought conditions were evident but irrigation was not provided and corrective actions taken.

Odor BMP Implementation Commitment Statement

To be completed and signed annually by operators which have a neighboring facility or a public use facility in the evaluation distance area. This form is an attestation of the operator for the daily implementation of the Odor BMPs, and in accordance with §83.791, it is to be kept on site for at least 3 years.

(Copy This Page For Future Use)

OMP Amendment Name: Nelson H. Auker – Auker Farm

Level I Odor BMPs Principles

1. Steps were taken to reduce dust and feed accumulation in pens, aisles, and on animals.
2. Ventilation was managed to provide sufficient fresh airflow throughout the facility to keep animals and facility surfaces clean and dry.
3. Manure was managed to minimize damp, exposed manure that contributes to odor generation.
4. Mortalities were removed daily and managed appropriately.
5. Feed nutrients were matched to animal nutrient requirements to avoid excess nutrient excretion.
6. Manage manure storage to reduce exposed surface area and off-site odor transfer.

Odor Management Plan Requirements

In accordance with §§83.762 operator commitment statement), 83.771 (managing odors), 83.781 – 83.783 (Odor BMPs and schedules), 83.791 – 83.792 (documentation requirements) and 83.802 (plan implementation), I affirm that all the information I provided in the odor management plan is accurate to the best of my knowledge.

In order to manage the potential for impacts from the offsite migration of odors associated with the operation, I affirm that I have implemented the specific practices and procedures detailed in the odor management plan Odor BMP Implementation, Operation & Maintenance Schedule (principles identified above) from DATE: _____ to DATE: _____ (CY/ FY, etc.).

I affirm the foregoing to be true and correct, and make these statements subject to the penalties of 18 Pa. C.S. § 4904, relating to unsworn falsification to authorities.

Signature of Operator: _____ *Date:* _____

Name of Operator: _____

Title of Operator: _____

Level II Odor BMPs – Quarterly Observation Log YEAR _____

(NOTE: The operator will record observations relating to 1) the implementation of each Level II Odor BMP at least on the first day (approximately) of each accordance with the Implementation, Operation & Maintenance Schedule, and 2,) for mechanically related maintenance activities, as soon as possible upon is needed, or upon each occurrence of any corrective actions taken.)

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Select Quarter: **1st Quarter (January)** **2nd Quarter (April)** **3rd Quarter (July)**

LEVEL II ODOR BMP NAME: Windbreak Walls

<i>List ACTIVITIES</i>	<i>DATE</i>	<i>NOTES</i>
Inspections		
Replace/Repair broken/damaged boards or posts		

Level II Odor BMPs – Quarterly Observation Log YEAR _____

(NOTE: The operator will record observations relating to 1) the implementation of each Level II Odor BMP at least on the first day (approximately) of each accordance with the Implementation, Operation & Maintenance Schedule, and 2,) for mechanically related maintenance activities, as soon as possible upon is needed, or upon each occurrence of any corrective actions taken.)

(Copy This Page For Future Use)

Select Quarter: **1st Quarter (January)** **2nd Quarter (April)** **3rd Quarter (July)**

LEVEL II ODOR BMP NAME: Poultry Litter Amendment

<i>List ACTIVITIES</i>	<i>DATE</i>	<i>NOTES</i>
Inspections		
Placement before each flock		

Level II Odor BMPs – Quarterly Observation Log YEAR _____

(NOTE: The operator will record observations relating to 1) the implementation of each Level II Odor BMP at least on the first day (approximately) of each accordance with the Implementation, Operation & Maintenance Schedule, and 2,) for mechanically related maintenance activities, as soon as possible upon is needed, or upon each occurrence of any corrective actions taken.)

(Copy This Page For Future Use)

Select Quarter: 1st Quarter (January) 2nd Quarter (April) 3rd Quarter (July)

LEVEL II ODOR BMP NAME: Vegetative Buffer for Screening

<i>List ACTIVITIES</i>	<i>DATE</i>	<i>NOTES</i>
Inspections		
Replace Dead Stock		
Competing Vegetation removal		
Irrigation		

Appendix 1: Operation Information

Part A: Odor Source Factors

1. **Site Livestock History:** Heavy Broilers – 59,000 = 154.94 AEUs

*Detail the Maximum AEU*s of Livestock on this site (which may also include any animals from regulated facilities) within the past 3 years.

Existing Facilities Description:

NOTE: If the facilities or animal information differ from the most current Nutrient Management Plan, detail the differences in Appendix 5: Supporting Documentation.

Definitions: Existing facilities are those animal housing facilities or manure storage facilities constructed before February 27, 2009, and are not subject to Odor Management program requirements. These are the baseline facilities which were identified in the originally approved OMP.

2. **List the Existing Animal Types:** Broiler **Existing Animal Numbers:** 60,000

3. **Existing Animal Equivalent Units (AEUs) per Animal Type:** 120.51

4. **Existing Animal Housing Facility(ies):**

Describe all existing animal housing facilities including their dimensions, capacity and existing Odor BMPs used to address potential impacts.

Animal Housing Facility	Dimensions	Livestock Capacity	Existing Odor BMPs
None – see Appendix 5			

5. **Existing Manure Storage Facility(ies) and Manure Handling Systems:**

a. *Describe all existing manure storage facilities and manure treatment technology facilities, including their dimensions, capacity and existing Odor BMPs used to address potential impacts.*

Manure Storage Facility	Dimensions	Usable Capacity	Existing Odor BMPs
None			

b. *Provide a narrative description detailing the manure handling systems, including manure storage facilities, manure stacking areas, and manure treatment technology facilities.*

Broiler barns were cleaned out and exported to the broker.

Currently Regulated Facilities:

Detail the information below for each constructed regulated facility, clearly indicating what was previously approved in the original plan and then separately (copy & paste) for each approved plan amendment.

Previous Plan Approval Date: 01/17/2018 Previous OSI Score: 116.1 Currently Regulated AEUs: 24.1

6. **Currently regulated animal housing facility(ies):** *None Regulated*

a. Population Date(s): 12/2018 *Detail the dates that each regulated animal housing facility was populated.*

b. *Provide a detailed description of all currently regulated animal housing facilities including their dimensions and livestock capacity.*

Animal Housing Facility	Dimensions	Livestock Capacity
Broiler Barn #1	63' x 500'	36,000
Broiler Barn #2	63' x 500'	36,000

Act 38 of 2005, Odor Management Plan Amendment

Previous Plan Approval Date: 11/09/2021 Previous OSI Score: 116.1 Currently Regulated AEUs: 30.21

7. Currently regulated manure storage facility(ies): *None Regulated*

- a. Storage Use Date(s): January 2021 *Detail the dates that each regulated animal housing facility was utilized.*
- b. *Provide a detailed description of all currently regulated manure storage facilities, manure stacking areas and manure treatment technology facilities including their dimensions and storage capacity.*

Manure Storage Facility	Dimensions	Useable Capacity
Mortality Composting/Manure Storage Facility – Hoop-style roof anchored to concrete blocks with concrete floor	24' x 27' x 17'	3,888cuft assuming max stacking height of 6' and not accounting for side-slope of the stack

8. Required Odor BMPs for the currently regulated facility(ies): Yes/ None Required

Detail in the Plan Summary, C. Odor BMP Implementation, Operation & Maintenance Schedule, all Required Odor BMPs from previous approved plans or plan amendments which are still applicable to its associated regulated facility. If specific Odor BMPs that were previously approved no longer apply to this site specific scenario, contact Odor Management program staff to identify and discuss this operational change prior to submitting the plan amendment.

- a. Previous Approved Odor BMPs are no longer applicable and are not part of the OMP. Yes/ No *This is only applicable when the Plan Amendment is either 1) changing Odor BMPs and that the new Odor BMPs are detailed in the Plan Summary, or that 2) due to a change from the newest evaluation for the Plan Amendment, the OSI allows for this change in Odor BMP requirement.*

Proposed Regulated Facility(ies) Description:

Detail the information below, clearly indicating:

- 1) *The animals that will be housed in the proposed animal housing facility(ies), which include expansions onto existing facilities;*
- 2) *The manure type (animal type detailed in the OSI) that will be stored in the proposed storage facility and identifying the Act 38 Nutrient Management Program requirements that must be followed for the proposed manure storage facility(ies);*
- 3) *If Voluntary Existing Animal Numbers and AEUs or Transferred Existing AEUS do not apply, state “None”, “Zero (0)” or “Not Applicable” for that criterion.*

NOTE: *The Animal Type associated with the Proposed Facilities must be consistent with the Animal Type detailed in the OSI.*

NOTE: *If the proposed facilities, animal information, and AEU calculations differ from the most current Nutrient Management Plan (NMP), detail the differences in Appendix 5: Supporting Documentation.*

Definitions:

- **Proposed AEUs** are the new additional AEUs associated with the proposed regulated animal housing facility(ies).
- **Voluntary Existing AEUs** are the AEUs associated with the existing animal housing facility(ies).
- **Proposed AEUs and Voluntary Existing AEUs** are used for determining the Odor Site Index evaluation distance area.
- **Transferred Existing AEUs** are existing AEUs on the site that will be transferred into the animal housing facility being evaluated.
- **Total AEUs** are used for determining significant change of the regulated facility(ies); a significant change will require an amendment to the plan. A significant change is defined as a net increase of equal to or greater than 25% in AEUs, as measured from the time of the initial plan approval.

9. (a) Proposed Facility OSI Animal Types: Heavy Broilers; Finishing Beef Cattle; Finishing Swine; Ewe Sheep; Lambs; Ram Sheep

Proposed Animal Numbers per animal type: 0 (see appendix 5); 15; 2; 20; 20; 1

Proposed AEUs per animal type: 4.21; 14.25; 0.33; 3.50; 0.39; 0.23

(b) Voluntary Existing Animal Types: 0

Voluntary Existing Animal Numbers: 0

Voluntary Existing AEUs per animal type: 0

Act 38 of 2005, Odor Management Plan Amendment

(c) **Regulated AEU's under Previous Plan(s)** (*Associated with Currently Regulated Facilities*): 24.1 (approved 01/17/2018); 30.21 (approved 11/09/2021)

(d) **Total AEU's Covered by this Plan:** 53.12

(e) **Acres for the operation associated with an approved Act 38 NMP or acres utilized for the CAO calculation:** 3.40

(f) **Total AEU's/ Acre for the operation:** 51.07

NOTE: The AEU's per acre calculation is only used to verify CAO status. AEU's per acre calculation must reflect the calculations in the most current NMP, otherwise explain the difference and submit the calculations in Appendix 5: Supporting Documentation.

(g) **Transferred Existing Animal Types:** Check only when Applicable

NOTE: Detail the following information in Appendix 5: Supporting Documentation when 0 "Proposed AEU's" are proposed due to transferring existing animals on the site into the animal housing facility being evaluated:

- 1) The OSI Animal Type associated with the Proposed Facilities,
- 2) The numbers of animals transferred, and
- 3) The AEU's. This information will be used for determining a significant change which will require an amendment to the plan.

10. Proposed new or expanded animal housing facility(ies):

Detail all proposed animal housing facilities, or portions thereof, including their dimensions and livestock capacity.

NOTE: If the proposed facilities differ from the most current NMP, detail the differences in Appendix 5: Supporting Documentation.

Animal Housing Facility	<input type="checkbox"/> None Proposed	Dimensions	Livestock Capacity
Cattle Shelter		12' x 40'	15 Finishing Beef Cattle
Run-in Shelter		12' x 20'	2 Finishing Hogs; 1 Cattle
Sheep Shelter		35' x 30'	20 ewes, 20 lambs, 1 ram

11. Proposed new or expanded manure storage facility(ies):

NOTE: If the proposed facilities differ from the most current NMP, detail the differences in Appendix 5: Supporting Documentation.

(a) *Provide a narrative description detailing all manure handling systems (including all manure storage facilities, manure stacking areas, and manure treatment technology facilities) after the addition of the proposed facilities.*

Broiler barn litter is managed with a combination of 2 methods. The preferred method is called "housekeeping" and is used for ≈ 4 flocks/year. The other method is "composting" and is used for ≈ 2 flocks/year. Housekeeping method: a machine is run through the barn which picks up the litter and sorts out the crust and wet layers and returns the dry sifted litter to be reused. A layer of the powder Poultry Litter Treatment (commercially known as PLT or A-7) – designed to lower pH and eliminate ammonia) is broadcast over the sifted litter within hours of the next flock being brought in. This method is preferred over composting because it produces less odor at cleanout, takes less time, generates less waste at cleanout (24 tons), provides a more comfortable environment for the birds and eliminates the need for more bedding to be added. If disease or pests are detected in a flock, the entire barn will be cleaned out and disinfected. When this happens the compost method must be used for at least 2 flocks because a large amount of shavings are needed to re-bed the entire barn and the housekeeping method would "sort" out the shavings resulting in a financial loss. Compost method: after each flock a litter windrower makes 3 windrows out of the litter. After 2-3 days, the windrows are turned – this happens 3 times which allows sufficient heating of all the material in the windrows to eliminate disease and pests. Two days after the third turning, the litter is flattened out and reused for the next flock. A layer of the powder Poultry

Act 38 of 2005, Odor Management Plan Amendment

Litter Treatment (commercially known as PLT or A-7) – designed to lower pH and eliminate ammonia) is broadcast over the sifted litter within hours of the next flock being brought in.

Complete cleanout of the barns will occur once a year or when required by the integrator due to disease or pests. When litter is removed from the barn it is immediately exported via a broker.

Manure and bedding in the Cattle Shelter, Run-in Shed and Sheep Shelter is managed as a bedpack. The bedded pack will be cleaned out semi-annually or as-needed depending on how much the animals are on pasture and the weather conditions.

The mortality compost and manure are cleaned from the Mortality Composting/Manure Storage Facility and exported as-needed, but at least once/year, to a neighbor for land application.

- (b) *Detail all proposed manure storage facilities, manure stacking areas, and manure treatment technology facilities.*
NOTE: If a waiver is required, it must be attached in Appendix 5: Supporting Documentation for the plan to be administratively complete.

Manure Storage Facility	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None Proposed	Dimensions	Usable Capacity
None			

Act 38 NM Program Setback Requirements Verification

NOTE: When manure storage facilities are proposed, N/A cannot be detailed for both c & d

- (c) **Broilers - Existing Operations** Not Applicable.

Select all check-boxes that apply for Existing Operations proposing manure storage facilities.

In accordance with planning provisions of the Commission’s Nutrient Management Program regulations, the proposed manure storage(s) is part of an existing operation (operation that produced livestock or poultry on or before October 1, 1997) and will be located having a minimum setback distance of the following:

- i. 100’ minimum setback distance (in accordance with **§83.351(a)(2)(v)(A)-(E)**) from wetlands, water bodies and wells (public and private). Yes Not Applicable
- ii. 100’ minimum setback distance (in accordance with **§83.351(a)(2)(v)(F)**) a from the property line; otherwise an executed Manure Storage Setback Waiver from the Neighboring Landowner, must be attached. Yes Not Applicable
- iii. 200’ minimum setback distance (in accordance with **§83.351(a)(2)(v)(G)**) from wetlands, water bodies and wells (public and private) for a manure storage facility of 1.5 million gallons or larger capacity or that is located on slopes exceeding 8%. Yes Not Applicable
- iv. 200’ minimum setback distance (in accordance with **§83.351(a)(2)(v)(H)**) from the property line for a manure storage facility of 1.5 million gallons or larger capacity or that is located on slopes exceeding 8% and the slope is toward the property line; otherwise an executed Manure Storage Setback Waiver from the Neighboring Landowner, must be attached. Yes Not Applicable

- (d) **New Operations/ New Animal Enterprises** Not Applicable.

Select all check-boxes that apply for New Operations/ New Animal Enterprises proposing manure storage facilities.

If the proposed manure storage(s) is part of a new operation (operation that produced livestock or poultry after October 1, 1997), or a new animal enterprise (an existing operation that expanded after October 1, 1997, via producing different livestock or poultry than what was previously produced – see NM Tech Manual, Section III) and in accordance with planning provisions of the Commission’s Nutrient Management Program regulations the proposed storage will be located having a minimum setback distance of the following:

- i. 100’ minimum setback distance (in accordance with **§83.351(a)(2)(vi)(A)-(E)**) f from wetlands, water bodies and wells (public and private). Yes Not Applicable
- ii. 200’ minimum setback distance (in accordance with **§83.351(a)(2)(v)(F)**) from the property line; otherwise an executed Manure Storage Setback Waiver from the Neighboring Landowner, must be attached. Yes Not Applicable

Act 38 of 2005, Odor Management Plan Amendment

- iii. 200’ minimum setback distance (in accordance with §83.351(a)(2)(v)(G) from wetlands, water bodies and wells (public and private) for a manure storage facility of 1.5 million gallons or larger capacity or that is located on slopes exceeding 8%. Yes Not Applicable
- iv. 300’ minimum setback distance (in accordance with §83.351(a)(2)(v)(H)) from the property line for a manure storage facility of 1.5 million gallons or larger capacity or that is located on slopes exceeding 8% and the slope is toward the property line; otherwise an executed Manure Storage Setback Waiver from the Neighboring Landowner, must be attached. Yes Not Applicable

12. Construction activities of the proposed regulated facilities:

NOTE: Construction activities must be started within 3 years of the plan approval date.

- a. *Detail the proposed construction sequence timeframes for each proposed regulated facility (or portions thereof)* The cattle shelter was completed in Fall 2023 and is an “after-the-fact” structure. The run-in shed already exists but was not being used for animal housing previously. The sheep shelter is proposed for Spring 2026.
- b. *Have construction activities started on any of the proposed regulated facilities?* Yes No *If yes, please detail:* The cattle shelter was added on to an existing storage building and was completed in Fall 2023. This is an “after-the-fact” structure. The run-in shelter already exists but was not being used for animal housing previously.

Part B: Site Land Use Factors

1) Select the applicable check-box below for each special agricultural land use designation, and

2) Provide written verification in Appendix 5: Supporting Documentation for each agricultural land use designation claimed.

NOTE: Documentation verifying each claimed land use must be attached for the plan to be administratively complete.

Agricultural land use designations applicable to the site being evaluated:

- 1. Agricultural Security Area Yes / No
- 2. Agricultural Zoning Yes / No
- 3. Preserved Farm Yes / No

Part C: Surrounding Area Land Use Factors

NOTE: Detail applicable criteria for 1 and 2 on the Operational Map in Appendix 2.

- 1. Other Livestock Operations (≥ 8 AEUs) within the evaluation distance area Yes / No
If yes, then list the type of operation, the direction (N, S, E, W) and quadrant (distance range from the facility). A dairy farm exists in the North quadrant in the 1200’ – 1800’ evaluation range.
- 2. Distance to nearest property line measurements:
NOTE: Measured from nearest corner of the proposed animal housing facility and/or manure storage facility to the property line. Measurements must also be detailed on the Operational Map in Appendix 2.
 - a. Animal Housing Facility measurement Broiler Barn #1 = 55’; Broiler Barn #2 = 62’; Run-in Shed = 73’; Cattle Shelter = 96’; Sheep Shelter = 80’(ft.) Not Applicable
 - b. Manure Storage Facility measurement Mortality Composting/Manure Storage Facility = 45’(ft.) Not Applicable
- 3. If nearest property (from the nearest property line measurements indicated in “2” above) is less than 300’, is this neighboring property a Preserved Farm? Yes / No

NOTE: Documentation verifying this claimed status must be attached for the plan to be administratively complete.

Act 38 of 2005, Odor Management Plan Amendment

- (a) *If “Yes” is indicated, detail the name and address in Appendix 5: Supporting Documentation of the nearest neighboring property owner who has a Preserved Farm.*

Appendix 2: Operational Maps

Topographic Map

Odor Management Plans must include a topographic map drawn to scale with a map legend, identifying:

- Operation boundaries;
- Location of existing and proposed animal housing and manure storage facilities on the operation;
- Location of operation-related neighboring facilities;
- Location of neighboring facilities (normally occupied homes, active businesses and churches) and public use facilities within the evaluation distance area;
- Local topography (as indicated by the topographic lines);
- Geographic center with concentric circles drawn at 600' intervals for the entire evaluation distance area;
- Identification of the various map quadrants to include North, South, East and West;
- Distance to nearest property line from the nearest facility;
- Road names within the evaluation distance area; and
- All neighboring facilities and public use facilities that are being given credit for the Intervening Topography and Vegetation Factor.

In order to distinguish the following criteria from the other neighboring facilities and public use facilities, the Operational Map and the associated map legend must have separate symbols detailing the following:

- All operation-related neighboring facilities, and
- All neighboring facilities and public use facilities which are being given credit for the Intervening Topography and Vegetation Factor.

NOTE: *The scale chosen must be reasonable and practical for use in evaluating the OMP. For example:*

- *A scale of 1" = 600' is an example of a scale that is reasonable for use in determining evaluation distances, setbacks, etc., but may not be practical for larger evaluation distance areas for fitting the map on one 8 1/2' x 11' sheet of paper.*
- *A scale of 1.37" = 267.5' is an example of a scale that may be practical for fitting on one 8 1/2' x 11' sheet of paper, but in a scale that is not reasonable or very useful.*
- *Maps need to be to a scale that shows sufficient detail to be reasonable and useful. Planners are encouraged to use a scale that can be divided evenly by, or into, 600' by a round whole number*
- *Multiple maps are encouraged to be provided for the purpose of facilitating specific details, i.e. aerial maps, etc.*

Site Map

The purpose of the site map is to facilitate the plan review process of identifying specific details about the operation being evaluated. Odor Management Plans must include a site map of the operational related facilities drawn to scale with a map legend, identifying at a minimum the following:

- Operation boundaries;
- Location of existing and proposed animal housing and manure storage facilities on the operation;
- Geographic center with concentric circles drawn at 600' intervals; and
- Distance to nearest property line from the nearest facility

If there are multiple facilities on the site, detail the name of each of the facilities as per what the operator refers to them as, i.e. Layer #1 – Layer #5, mortality composting facility, etc.

If the evaluation distance area is small enough, i.e. a 1200' evaluation distance area, to clearly identify the specific details required, then a separate map will not be required.

**Proposed
Windbreak Walls**

Need to leave area of
cleanout pad open so
machine can access the
barns – the pads are 25'
wide

All windbreak walls
are 33' long and will

Mortality
Composting/
Manure Storage
Facility

Broiler Barn #2

**Proposed
Windbreak Wall**

46'

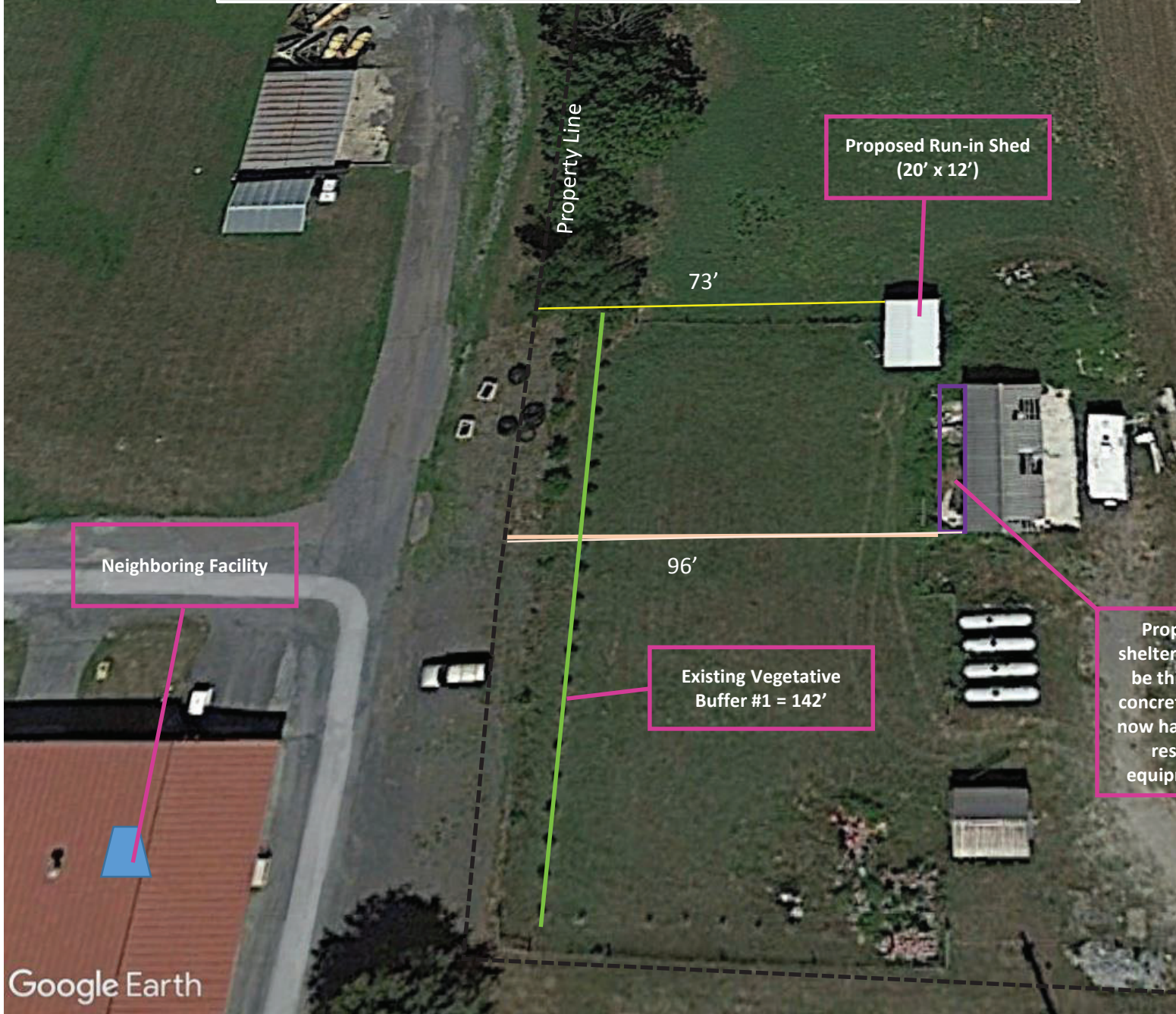
35'

62'

55'

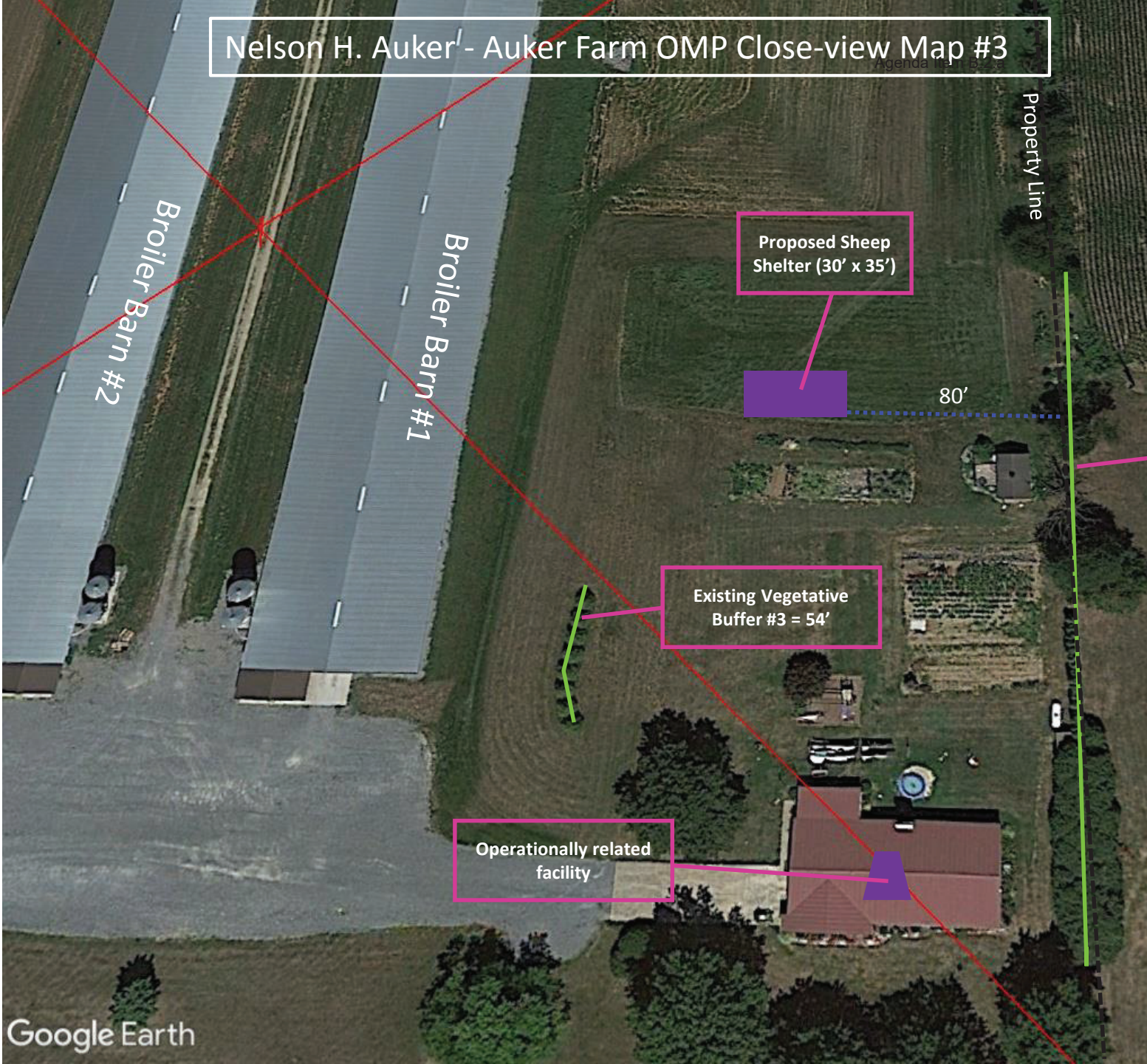
Nelson H. Aufer - Aufer Farm OMP Close-view Map #2

Agenda Item B.2.a



Nelson H. Auker - Auker Farm OMP Close-view Map #3

Agenda Item 5.2.8



Nelson H. Auker - Auker Farm OMP Site Map

NORTH

Distance to nearest property line – See Close-view maps for more detail:

Broiler Barn #1= 55'

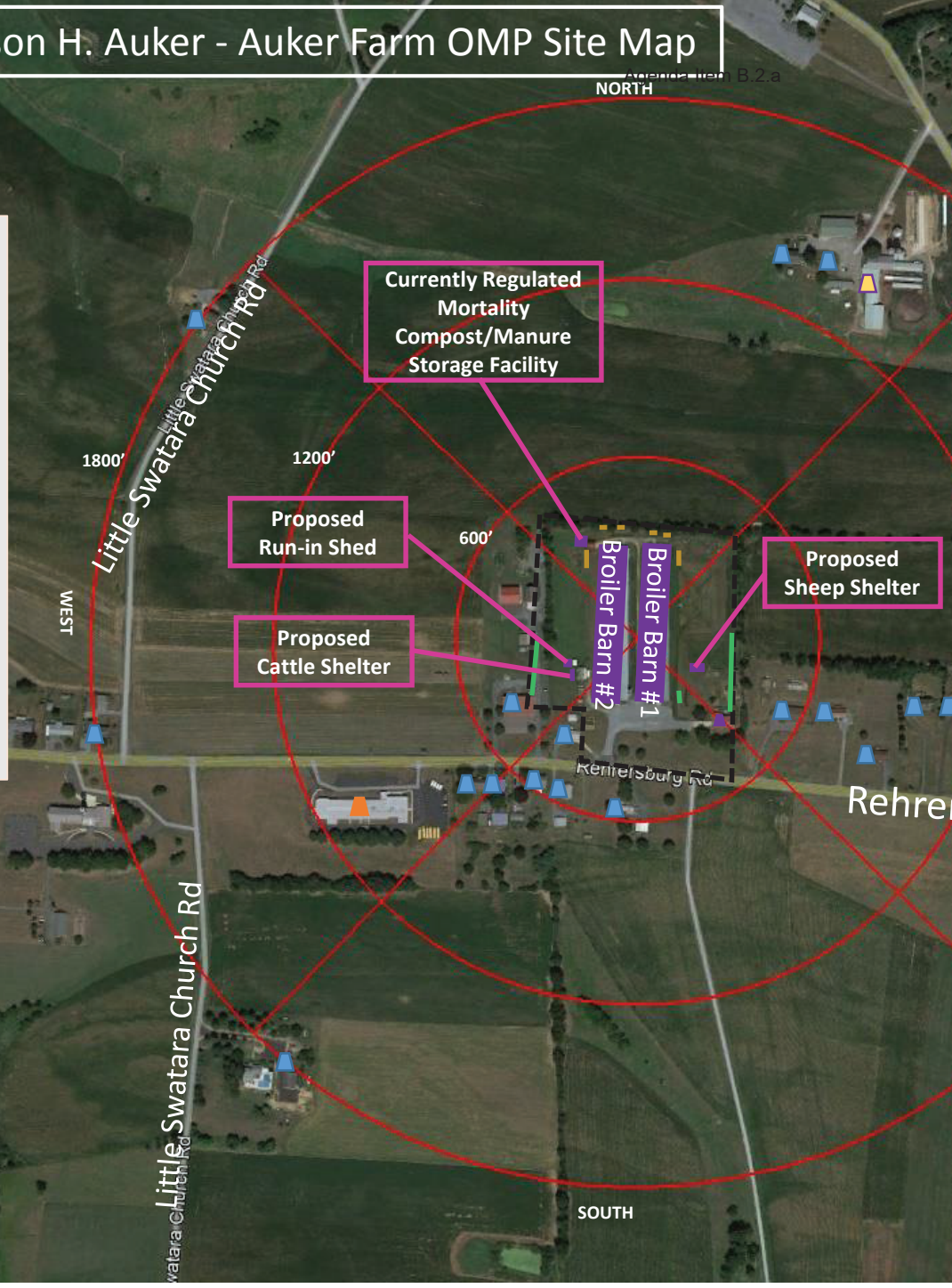
Broiler Barn #2= 62'

Mortality Compost/Manure Storage Facility= 45'

Run-in Shed=73'

Cattle Shelter= 96'

Sheep shelter= 80'



Note: See Close-view Maps for more detail on Windbreak Walls and Vegetative Buffers

— Vegetative Buffers

— Windbreak Walls

Google Earth

Nelson H. Aufer - Aufer Farm OMP Topographic Map

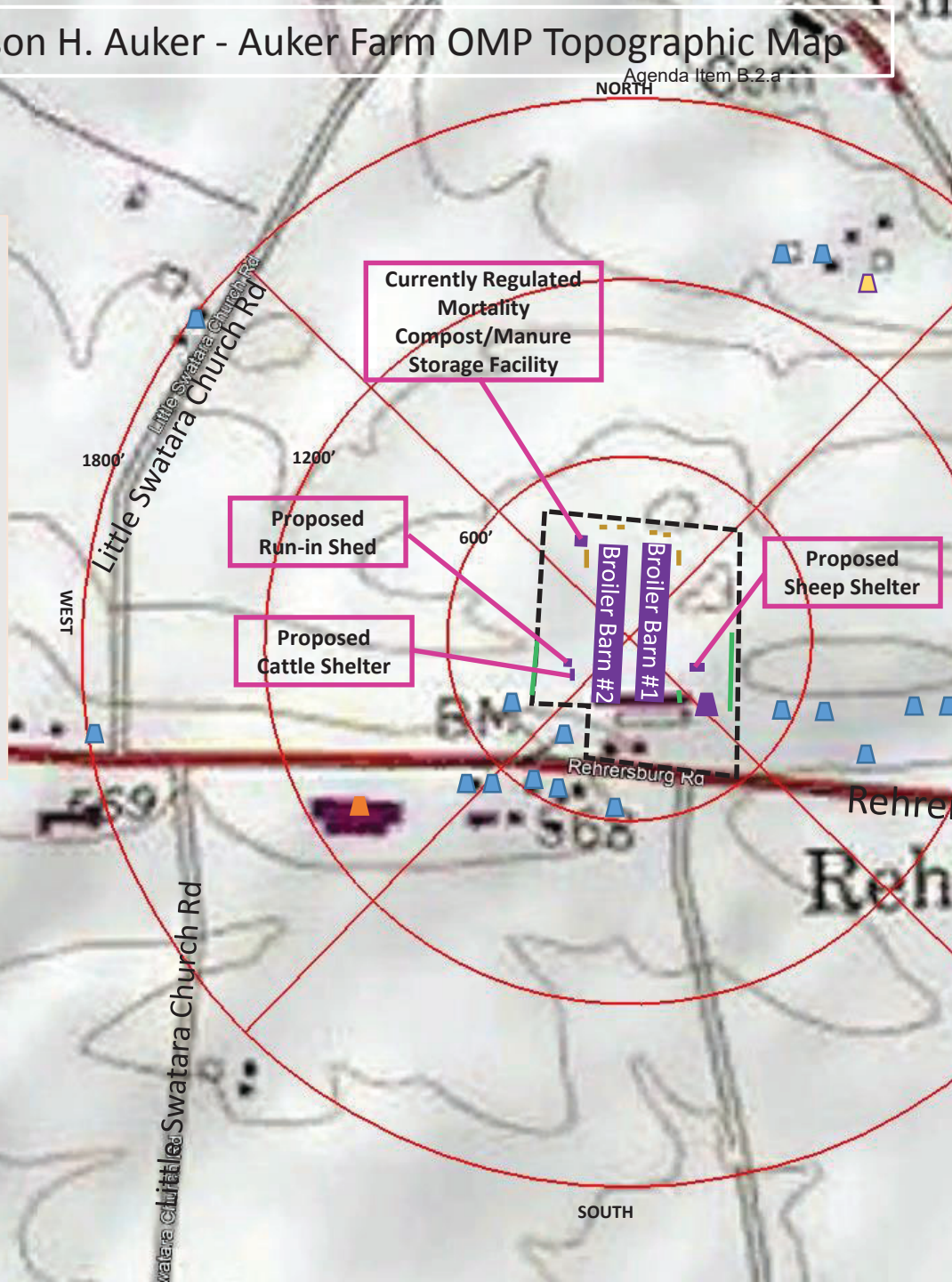
Agenda Item B.2.a

Distance to nearest property line – See Close-view maps for more detail:

- Broiler Barn #1= 55'
- Broiler Barn #2= 62'
- Mortality Compost/Manure Storage Facility= 45'
- Run-in Shed=73'
- Cattle Shelter= 96'
- Sheep shelter= 80'

Note: See Close-view Maps for more detail on Windbreak Walls and Vegetative Buffers

- Vegetative Buffers
- Windbreak Walls



Appendix 3: Plan Evaluation – OSI

Act 38 Odor Management Plan - Odor Site Index

Agenda Item B.2.a

Operator Name	Nelson H. Auker - Auker Farm		
Planner Name	Melissa Rubano		
Type of Operation	Broilers		
Voluntary Existing AEU's	0		
Proposed AEU's	22.91		
Previously Approved AEU's	Original Plan = 24.1; Amendment A = 30.21		
AEU's Covered by OMP	53.12		
Evaluation Distance	1800'		
Part A: Odor Source Factors			OSI Score
Facility Size Covered by OMP	53.12		2
Site Livestock History	50-199 AEU's _6pts		6
Manure Handling System	Poultry - Multi-flock litter, with or w/o external covered storage-4pts		4
			12.0
Part B: Site Land Use			
Ag Security Zone	No (0 pct)		0
Ag Zoning	No (0 pct)		0
Preserved Farm	No (0 pct)		0
			0.00
Part C: Surrounding Land Use			
Other Livestock >8 AEU in evaluation distance	1 or more (0 pts)		0.00
Distance to Nearest Property Line	<150' (10 pts)		10.00
If nearest property is <300', is it preserved farmland	No (0 pts)		0.00
Neighboring Homes			116.00
Public Use Facilities			13.00
			139.00
Species Adjustment Factor	Broilers,turkeys (-.1)		135.00
Final OSI Score			135.00
Level 2 BMPs Required			

East Quadrant	<600	600-1200	1200-1800	1800-2400	2400-3000	
# Neighboring Facilities	1	4	5	Select from list	Select from list	
Facility Value	15	7	3	0	0	
Home Shielding	<600 None (1)	600-1200 None (1)	1200-1800 None (1)	Select from list	Select from list	Total Facilities 58.0
# Public Use Facilities						Total Public 0.0
Public Use Value	40	20	10	5	3	
Public Use Shielding	Select from list	Select from list	Select from list	Select from list	Select from list	Total East 58.0
South Quadrant	<600	600-1200	1200-1800	1800-2400	2400-3000	
# Neighboring Facilities	4	1	1	Select from List	Select from List	
Facility Value	10	5	2	0	0	
Home Shielding	<600 None (1)	600-1200 None (1)	1200-1800 None (1)	Select from list	Select from list	Total Facilities 47.0
# Public Use Facilities						Total Public 0.0
Public Use Value	30	15	7	4	2	
Public Use Shielding	Select from list	Select from list	Select from list	Select from list	Select from list	Total South 47.0
North Quadrant	<600	600-1200	1200-1800	1800-2400	2400-3000	
# Neighboring Facilities	0	0	2	Select from List	Select from List	
Facility Value	6	3	0.5	0	0	
Home Shielding	Select from list	Select From List	1200-1800 None (1)	Select from list	Select from list	Total Facilities 1.0
# Public Use Facilities						Total Public 0.0
Public Use Value	25	13	6	3	1	
Public Use Shielding	Select from list	Select from list	Select from list	Select from list	Select from list	Total North 1.0
West Quadrant	<600	600-1200	1200-1800	1800-2400	2400-3000	
# Neighboring Facilities	1	1	2	Select from list	Select from list	
Facility Value	6	3	0.5	0	0	
Home Shielding	<600 None (1)	600-1200 None (1)	1200-1800 None (1)	Select from list	Select from list	Total Facilities 10.0
# Public Use Facilities		1				Total Public 13.0
Public Use Value	25	13	6	3	1	
Public Use Shielding	Select from list	600-1200 None (1)	Select from list	Select from list	Select from list	Total West 23.0
						Grand Total 129.0

Appendix 4: Biosecurity

Biosecurity Protocol Contact Information

Detail the point of contact for information on this operation's biosecurity protocols:

Name:	<u>Nelson Auker</u>	Phone:	<u>717-644-7219</u>
E-mail:	<u>nelsonauker@gmail.com</u>	Relationship:	<u>Owner/operator</u>

Appendix 5: Supporting Documentation

This section is reserved for the plan writer when developing this plan to have a dedicated area to include supporting documentation such as for agricultural land use designation verification, Nutrient Management program setback waiver verification, AEU calculation verification when no NMP is available, etc.

Table documenting AEU's covered by this plan:

ANIMAL INFORMATION - Nelson Auker

Prepared by: **Melissa Rubano - NMC-2042** **Date: 09/07/2023**

One "Animal Equivalent Unit" (AEU) is 1,000 lbs live-weight on an annualized basis

Animal Type	Animal Numbers	Weight (lbs)	Typical Production Days per year	Days per Year	AEUs
Heavy Broilers Barn #1	29500	X 3.55	X 270	/ 365	/ 1000 77.47
Heavy Broilers Barn #2	29500	X 3.55	X 270	/ 365	/ 1000 77.47
Finishing beef	15	X 950	X 365	/ 365	/ 1000 14.25
Finishing hog	2	X 165	X 365	/ 365	/ 1000 0.33
Ewe sheep	20	X 175	X 365	/ 365	/ 1000 3.50
Lamb sheep	20	X 80	X 90	/ 365	/ 1000 0.39
Ram sheep	1	X 225	X 365	/ 365	/ 1000 0.23
TOTAL AEU's					173.64

TOTAL ACRES AVAILABE FOR MANURE APPLICATION (ACRES)	3.40
--	-------------

CAO DETERMINATION: ANIMAL DENSITY(AEU's/ACRE)	51.070588
--	------------------

Because the Animal Density is > 2 AEU's / Acre, this operation is	a CAO
---	-------

Note about AEU's: The original OMP (approved 01/17/2018) covered 144.62 AEU's (120.51 transferred broiler AEU's plus the 24.1 proposed broiler AEU's caused by either a change in the type of poultry or an increase in the barn capacity over the demolished barns). Amendment A (approved 11/09/2021) covered 150.73 AEU's (144.62 plus the additional 6.11 caused by the barns being populated alternately with heavy and light broilers rather than only light broilers). Amendment B covers 173.64 AEU's = 150.73 + 4.21 additional poultry AEU's because the barns are sometimes continuously populated with heavy broilers rather than alternating between light and heavy + 14.25 beef finishing cattle AEU's + 0.33 finishing hog AEU's + 4.12 sheep AEU's.

Note on transferred AEU's.: 60,000 broilers (120.51 AEU's) were transferred from the existing barns (which were torn down) into the currently regulated Broiler Barns #1 & 2. There have not been any new construction activities for broiler animal housing facilities since then.

Table showing site livestock history:

ANIMAL INFORMATION - Nelson Auker - site livestock history

Prepared by: Melissa Rubano - NMC-2042

One "Animal Equivalent Unit" (AEU) is 1,000 lbs live-weight on an annualized basis

Animal Type	Animal Numbers		Weight (lbs)		Typical Production Days per year		Days per Year			AEUs
Heavy Broilers Barn #1	29500	X	3.55	X	270	/	365	/	1000	77.47
Heavy Broilers Barn #2	29500	X	3.55	X	270	/	365	/	1000	77.47
Finishing beef	1	X	950	X	365	/	365	/	1000	0.95
TOTAL AEUs										155.89

Manure storage setback waiver attached.

Note on Sheep shelter dimensions: calculated using Exhibit 5 – Size Requirements for Heavy Use Areas by Animal Type and Weight from section III, PA NRCS FOTG: 15 sqft/lamb x 20 lambs = 300sqft + 38sqft/ewe or ram x 21 head = 798sqft Potential Total sqft for Sheep Shelter = 1100sqft Proposed size = 30' x 35' = 1,050sqft

Appendix 3. Neighboring Facilities:

A new building exists in the west quadrant between 0 and 600'. It is a storage building associated with the other neighboring facility marked in that quadrant which is owned by the township.

Manure Storage Setback Waiver (From Neighboring Landowner)

To Whom It May Concern:

I hereby consent to waive the required setback distance of 100 feet from my property line for the proposed manure storage facility to be built on the parcel of property with tax # ~~41111448756~~ currently owned by Nelson Ayker.

My property is identified by parcel # 8644111448756.

I understand that this manure storage facility will be closer to my property line than required setbacks provided under §83.351(a)(2)(vi)(H) of the regulations developed to implement Act 38 of 2005. This manure storage facility has my consent to be no closer than 20 feet from my adjoining property line. I understand that such a waiver is acceptable to the Pennsylvania State Conservation Commission under §83.351(a)(2)(vi)(H) of the aforementioned regulations.

Irvin M Hoover
Landowner Name (print)

Irvin M Hoover
Landowner Signature

17 Airport Rd Bethel
Landowner Address

12-2-17
Date

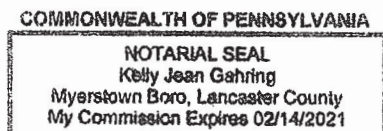
717 933-4702
Telephone Number

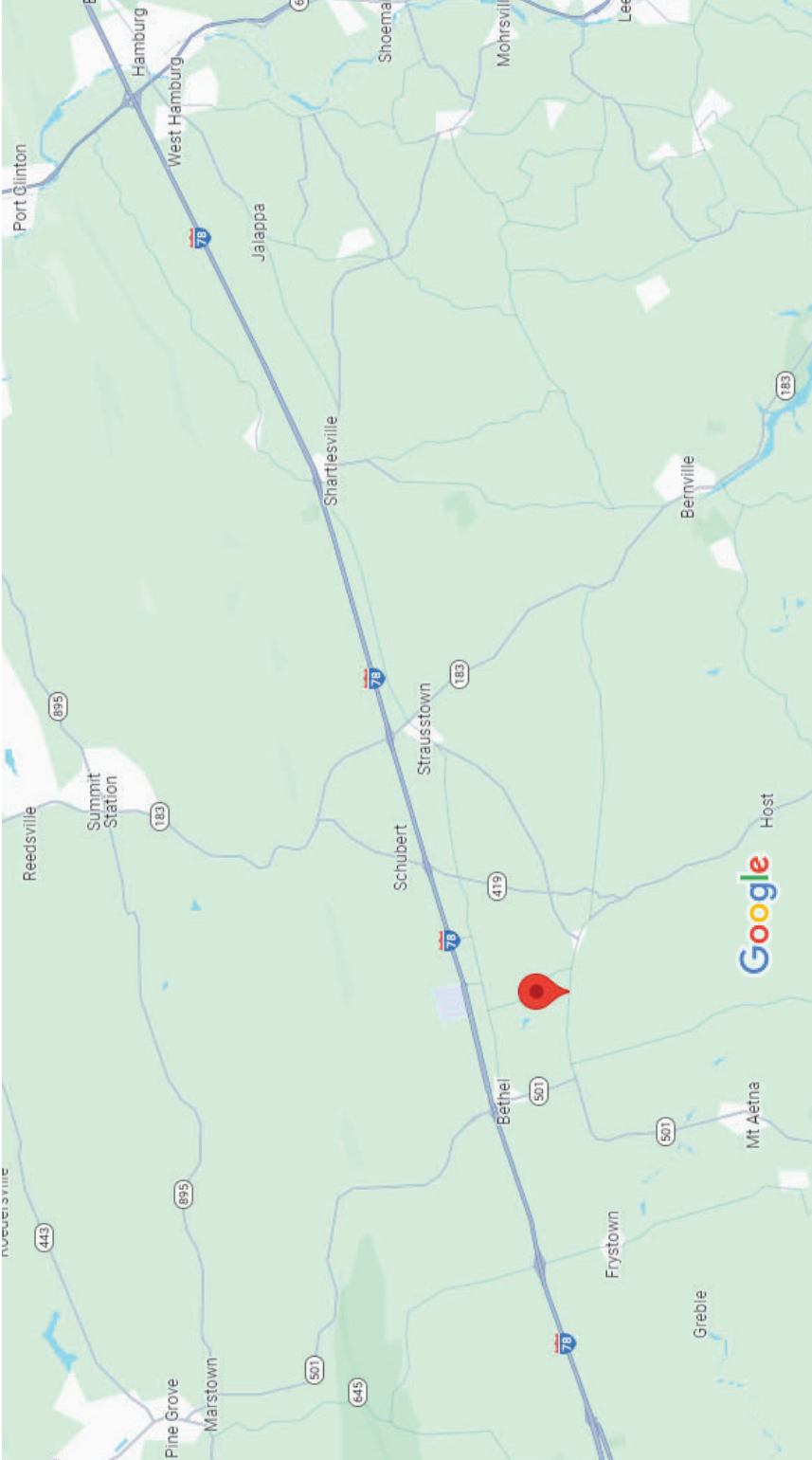
State of PA
County of Lebanon

On this, the 2 day of December, 2017, before me, the undersigned notary public, personally appeared Irvin Martin Hoover, known to me (or satisfactorily proven) to be the person whose name is subscribed to the within instrument, and acknowledged that he/she executed the same for the purposes therein contained.

In witness whereof, I hereunto set my hand and official seal.

Kelly Jean Gahrng
Notary Public





Map data ©2023 2 mi



**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

March 4, 2024

To: State Conservation Commission Members
From: Brady Seeley
Conservation Program Manager
RE: Nutrient Management Fund Budget

Information regarding 'Agenda Item B.2.b – Nutrient Management Fund Budget' will be provided prior to the March 12, 2024 public meeting.



**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

March 4, 2024

To: State Conservation Commission Members
From: Brady Seeley
Conservation Program Manager
RE: FY 24-25 Nutrient Management/Manure Management Delegation Amounts

Information regarding 'Agenda Item B.2.c - FY 24-25 Nutrient Management/Manure Management Delegation Amounts' will be provided prior to the March 12, 2024 public meeting.



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

TO: State Conservation Commission
FROM: Doug Wolfgang, Executive Secretary
RE: Manure Treatment Technology – Protocols for reductions – CB program
DATE: March 1, 2024

Energy Works BioPower LLC is seeking the Commission's endorsement for their proposal on crediting nutrient reductions from manure treatment technologies in the Chesapeake Bay Program model. The facility, which operates in Adams County, is a direct-monitored animal waste treatment system that uses waste from Hillandale Farms to generate energy and produce a product that is used for feed and fertilizer. The facility has been non-operational since late 2017, due in part to issues around nutrient load quantifications in the Bay Program. Energy Works Biopower LLC believes that under the nutrient accounting and modeling methods in their proposed protocol, the system would reduce Pennsylvania's nitrogen-equivalent nutrient loading to the Chesapeake Bay by 5.8 million pounds annually, a 60% decrease in PA's Phase 3 WIP TMDL goal shortfall. Under current practice, Hillandale, which is one of the largest CAFOs in the Bay watershed, does not exist in the Bay model.

Proposed protocols include the following principals –

1. Manure storage and land application are eliminated.
2. Continuous measurement of treatment process mass flows enables accurate, real-time quantification of avoided nutrient pollutants.
3. Avoided nutrient amounts are multiplied by an approved Adjustment Factor to quantify Chesapeake Bay TMDL load reductions.
4. Treated manure is considered "excess manure" that is not replaced by commercial fertilizer. (reference PA Phase 3 WIP, pg 133).
5. Nitrogen and phosphorus byproducts are tracked within commercial feed and fertilizer commodity supply chains.
6. Verified Level 3 EOT Load reductions are added directly to Chesapeake Bay Watershed Model load reductions to obtain total annual nutrient load reductions.



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

February 28th, 2024

To: Members

State Conservation Commission

From: Justin Challenger

Director, Financial & Technical Assistance Programs

RE: Logger Training and Outreach to Promote Implementation of BMP's in
Pennsylvania's Forests Project

Background

Pennsylvania forest products are a key component of the state's agricultural industry and the state's economy. US Forest Service Forest Inventory and Analysis data estimates that more than 220,000 acres of Pennsylvania's forests are harvested each year. These harvests supply raw material to the state's \$21.8 billion dollar forest products industry, which employs more than 60,000 Pennsylvanians.

Harvesting timber involves earth disturbances that clear and grade the forest floor to create skid trails, haul roads, and log landings necessary for specialized equipment to harvest, extract, and process timber products. Without intervention, the earth disturbances associated with logging can become a contributor of nonpoint source sediment pollution in Commonwealth streams, rivers, and waterbodies. Our forests naturally produce clean water that both humans and the environment depend on. Pennsylvania's forests house the majority of our state's high quality and exceptional value waters, numerous critical wetlands, and are an essential source for groundwater recharge. Implementing Best Management Practices (BMPs) that are specifically tailored to be practical and effective in Pennsylvania's forests is critical to protecting these invaluable water resources.

With a large number of Pennsylvania forests located on Agriculture Operations, there is a benefit to the ACAP program in educating Landowners, Foresters, and Conservation District staff on the benefits of the BMP's needed for a timber harvest operation. The Pennsylvania Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) Implementation Committee (PA SIC) has the expertise, experience, and capability to deliver such educational outreach.

Training Program Support

BMP training is regularly delivered through the PA SIC's Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials (PTHE) workshop which discusses pertinent regulations and permitting derived from Pennsylvania's Clean Streams Law, operational layout, BMP implementation



**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

practices, erosion and sediment control plans, and stream crossing practices. This training is scheduled and delivered in-person at various locations across Pennsylvania by our organization. The training program is geared towards professional loggers but is open to anyone with an interest in the content. Additionally, the PA SIC also coordinates with specific County Conservation District personnel to deliver more specialized day-long timber harvesting BMP training workshops at a local level. Participation in these workshops is encouraged by having the PA SIC approve them for continuing education credit in the Pennsylvania SFI Professional Timber Harvester Training Program.

Objectives

1. Deliver the Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials workshop in-person across Pennsylvania.
2. Host, deliver, and maintain the Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials workshop virtually through an on-demand platform.
3. Deliver specialized BMP training workshops in coordination with County Conservation Districts.
4. Develop and deliver outreach to County Conservation Districts and other forestry professionals on timber harvesting and BMP implementation.
5. Redevelop the Pennsylvania SFI Implementation Committee website to ensure continued hosting of BMP related information for Pennsylvania's timber harvesting industry.

Commission staff propose the attached ACAP special project budget and scope of work for the Logger Training and Outreach to Promote Implementation of BMPs in Pennsylvania's Forests Project for the consideration of the SCC at their March 12th meeting.

Project Title: Logger Training and Outreach to Promote Implementation of Best Management Practices in Pennsylvania's Forests

Project Dates: July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2026

Background

Pennsylvania forest products are a key component of the state's agricultural industry and the state's economy. US Forest Service Forest Inventory and Analysis data estimates that more than 220,000 acres of Pennsylvania's forests are harvested each year. These harvests supply raw material to the state's \$21.8 billion dollar forest products industry, which employs more than 60,000 Pennsylvanians.

Harvesting timber involves earth disturbances that clear and grade the forest floor to create skid trails, haul roads, and log landings necessary for specialized equipment to harvest, extract, and process timber products. Without intervention, the earth disturbances associated with logging can become a contributor of nonpoint source sediment pollution in Commonwealth streams, rivers, and waterbodies. Our forests naturally produce clean water that both humans and the environment depend on. Pennsylvania's forests house the majority of our state's high quality and exceptional value waters, numerous critical wetlands, and are an essential source for groundwater recharge. Implementing Best Management Practices (BMPs) that are specifically tailored to be practical and effective in Pennsylvania's forests is critical to protecting these invaluable water resources.

The Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) certification system has established an accountable network of participating entities across the state that help proactively drive the implementation of BMPs during timber harvesting operations. This is primarily achieved through the program's mandated educational outreach to logging professionals. For nearly 30 years, the Pennsylvania SFI Implementation Committee (PA SIC), operating across Pennsylvania as the local arm of the SFI Program, has administered the Pennsylvania SFI Professional Timber Harvester Training Program. The program provides educational outreach to the majority of Pennsylvania's professional logging workforce, but workshops are open to anyone with an interest in the content. BMP implementation and compliance with state and federal regulations related to soil and water protection are a fundamental focus of this program, and in fact, the PA SIC is the primary conveyance of this information to Pennsylvania's timber harvesting industry. This type of educational outreach promoted by the SFI program has proven to promote the implementation of BMPs on timber harvesting operations¹ and is undoubtedly a key reason why silvicultural activity consistently ranks in the bottom five sources of stream impairment across Pennsylvania, according to DEP's biennial Integrated Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment Report.

¹ A 2015 report published by the National Association of State Foresters titled *Protecting Water Quality through State Forestry Best Management Practices* stated that "In all scenarios, state forestry agencies report that logger training programs have proven to be a key element in strengthening the acceptance, adoption, and use of forestry BMPs." https://www.stateforesters.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/Protecting_Water_Quality_through_State_Forestry_BMPs_FINAL.pdf (Last accessed: 02/23/24)

In 2016 the US EPA decided not to regulate forest road discharges under the Clean Water Act stating that "Forestry certification programs promote higher rates of BMP implementation by mandating compliance with state and local laws and applicable BMPs, promote training/education and the use of trained loggers, promote monitoring of forestry BMP implementation, and include mechanisms for addressing instances where BMP nonconformance is observed." <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-07-05/pdf/2016-15844.pdf> (Last accessed: 02/23/24)

A 2017 report by Dale et al., titled *Status and prospects for renewable energy using wood pellets from the southeastern United States* published in *GCB-Bioenergy* stated "Logger training is a component of the Sustainable Forestry Initiative's certified Fiber Sourcing Standard, which sets expectations for responsible procurement of all fiber and is audited by an independent third party. Loggers who received training are more likely to implement BMPs during harvesting operations on nonindustrial private forests." <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/gcbb.12445> (Last accessed: 02/23/24)

Training Program Support

BMP training is regularly delivered through the PA SIC's Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials (PTHE) workshop which discusses pertinent regulations and permitting derived from Pennsylvania's Clean Streams Law, operational layout, BMP implementation practices, erosion and sediment control plans, and stream crossing practices. This training is scheduled and delivered in-person at various locations across Pennsylvania by our organization. The training program is geared towards professional loggers but is open to anyone with an interest in the content. Additionally, the PA SIC also coordinates with specific County Conservation District personnel to deliver more specialized day-long timber harvesting BMP training workshops at a local level. Participation in these workshops is encouraged by having the PA SIC approve them for continuing education credit in the Pennsylvania SFI Professional Timber Harvester Training Program.

With the advanced conveniences offered by expanded virtual education in recent years, the PA SIC is in the process of developing the PTHE workshop into an online course that would expand its availability to a wider audience involved in administering and/or executing timber harvesting operations across the state. Once finalized, the training will be available to timber harvesting practitioners, County Conservation District personnel, and others.

While the logging industry needs educational outreach on implementing forestry BMPs, it has been our experience that high personnel turnover and an inadequacy of available training related to timber harvesting within the County Conservation Districts has caused a great deal of inconsistency in how timber harvesting BMP are enforced across the state. With nearly 30 years of BMP outreach experience, staff who are highly proficient in forestry BMPs, and our existing training infrastructure, the PA SIC is uniquely positioned to be a key partner for the newly formed Cetner for Agricultural Conservation Assistance Training. We can provide training not only to County Conservation District staff, but also to staff within DCNR, NRCS, DEP, PGC, Penn State Extension, and nonprofit organizations with forestry related professionals such as the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, The Nature Conservancy, Ruffed Grouse Society, and Pheasants Forever. The PA SIC can help individuals gain a better understanding of timber harvesting operations/processes, the practical application of BMPs on such operations, and how those practices might differ from other earth disturbance activities.

Lastly, the PA SIC provides a great deal of outreach and informational support related to timber harvesting BMP implementation through its website. The Pennsylvania SFI website is widely recognized as an easy to navigate one-stop source for forestry specific BMP information and resources. We also utilize the website to accept and manage registrations for logger training courses, including PTHE and other BMP-related workshops. The website therefore streamlines our training activities and displaces the need for a great deal of additional administrative staff support. However, this website is dated and needs to be upgraded to match current website advancements, technologies, and security.

Objectives

1. Deliver the Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials workshop in-person across Pennsylvania.
2. Host, deliver, and maintain the Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials workshop virtually through an on-demand platform.
3. Deliver specialized BMP training workshops in coordination with County Conservation Districts.
4. Develop and deliver outreach to County Conservation Districts and other forestry professionals on timber harvesting and BMP implementation.
5. Redevelop the Pennsylvania SFI Implementation Committee website to ensure continued hosting of BMP related information for Pennsylvania's timber harvesting industry.

Annual Work Plan

The PA SIC Program Manager will administer and coordinate all BMP outreach and work closely with all contracted entities to provide expertise and oversight in the development and delivery of stated objectives. During the contract period, the Program Manager will:

1. Deliver and/or contract with qualified technical expert(s) to facilitate in-person delivery of Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials workshop at multiple locations across Pennsylvania during the spring (mid-March through mid-May) and fall (mid-September through mid-November). Coordinate scheduling and participant registration through internal training program infrastructure.
2. Develop, print, and distribute relevant educational materials for BMP-related training programs.
3. Contract with an instructional designer and subscribe to a host learning management system (LMS) to finalize and host Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials as an online training module available to entities such as timber harvesting practitioners, County Conservation District personnel, and a wide array of other forestry practitioners across the state.
4. Assist County Conservation Districts in delivering specialized BMP workshops specific to timber harvesting within their jurisdictions by serving as a presenter and by approving trainings for continuing education credit in the Pennsylvania SFI Professional Timber Harvester Training Program.
5. Work with the Center for Agricultural Conservation Assistance Training in delivering outreach to conservation professionals on implementing forestry BMPs.
6. Contract with a website developer to rebuild the Pennsylvania SFI Implementation Committee website that hosts BMP related outreach materials and resources, as well as the course management system that will handle registrations for BMP related trainings.

Annual Budget

	2024	2025	2026	Total
Total Salaries, Wages and Fringe	70,000	56,500	55,500	182,000
Program Manager	50,000	50,000	50,000	150,000
In-Person Training Facilitator	3,500	3,500	3,500	10,500
Website Developer	10,500			10,500
Instructional Designer	6,000	3,000	2,000	11,000
Total In State Travel	1,350	1,350	1,350	4,050
Program Manager	300	300	300	900
In-Person Training Facilitator	1,050	1,050	1,050	3,150
Materials and Supplies	4,500	4,500	4,500	13,500
Training materials	3,500	3,500	3,500	10,500
Learning Management System Subscription	1,000	1,000	1,000	3,000
Total Requested	75,850	62,350	61,350	199,550



Chuck Coup

Program Manager,
 Pennsylvania Sustainable Forestry Initiative®
 Implementation Committee

Phone: (814) 355-1010 Fax: (814) 355-1022
 Email: chuck@sfiopa.org Web: www.sfiopa.org
 211 Barrington Ln, Bellefonte, PA 16823



**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

TO: State Conservation Commission
FROM: Doug Wolfgang, Executive Secretary
RE: Ag Conservation Assistance Program (ACAP) - update
DATE: March 1, 2024

Staff will provide a brief update on the Ag Conservation Assistance Program (ACAP, including work with regional staff and districts on the new GIS/financial tracking system, drafting of the administrative manual, and planning for the first annual statewide ACAP conference to be held in June 2024.

The GIS system is live with all counties now reporting. The system is reporting over \$50 million committed to signed contracts with farmers. Most of the practice implementation will occur over this year and next.

Staff has been assisting urban agriculture interests in Philadelphia, including Fox Chase Farms and Farm Philly, in anticipation of applications for ACAP funding.

As 2026 deadline to spend funds approaches, efforts are under way to secure a dedicated fund for ACAP moving forward.



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

DATE: February 28, 2024
TO: State Conservation Commission
FROM: Joel Semke – REAP Coordinator
SUBJECT: Proposed changes for the FY 2024 REAP Program

Every year, the State Conservation Commission reviews the REAP Program and welcomes input from partners on how to improve the program. The changes range from minor revisions that are meant to improve the administration of the program to major changes that address what is eligible for REAP tax credits. Staff invites suggestions and comments regarding potential changes to the FY 2024 REAP program.

The proposals listed below reflect suggestions from SCC staff and partners based on experiences over the course of the past year. Please note: Each proposal is subject to legal review prior to being incorporated into the FY 2024 REAP Guidelines and Application packet. It is the intent of Commission staff to present a further final list of proposed changes at the April meeting of the Commission; and it is the intent of Commission staff to present final versions of the proposed FY 2024 REAP Guidelines and Application at the May 2024 meeting of the State Conservation Commission. The FY 2024 Guidelines and Application will include the proposed changes. Staff welcomes further comments and suggestions regarding the following proposals:

1. BMP maintenance lifespans

Proposal: Revise the REAP lifespans for all BMPs to 7 years. BMPS that currently have a 3 year (or 1 year) lifespan will stay at their current respective REAP lifespan.

The intent of the proposal is to simplify the maintenance requirements for REAP projects. The change will eliminate confusion about some constructed BMPs. Here are some examples of BMPs that would be moved to a standard 7-year lifespan (their current REAP lifespan in parenthesis): Grassed Waterway (5-yrs), Heavy Use Area Protection (10 yrs), Animal Trails & Walkways (5 yrs), Diversion (5 yrs), Fence (10 yrs). A 7-year REAP lifespan for almost all eligible BMPs would match many of the other lifespan requirements. For example, REAP lifespans for new equipment are currently 7-years, the \$250K REAP cap is tied to a 7-year period, and records in the Commission are typically kept for 7 years. In addition, staff feels that the move to a 7-year REAP lifespan represents a more enforceable rule. Commission staff is prepared to recoup funds for BMPs that are not maintained for their full REAP lifespan.

2. Older Equipment

Proposal: Add a sunset provision for no-till equipment of 20 years; and a sunset provision for precision nutrient application equipment of 10 years.

The intent of the proposal is to limit REAP eligibility to equipment that is newer and (presumably) more capable of planting in no-till conditions; and more capable of precision placement of nutrients. Equipment that is upgraded and refurbished by a qualified dealership (Pequea Planters, Cumberland Planter, etc) is exempt from the policy.

3. COVER CROPS

Proposal: Clarify rules regarding drones by specifying that they must be used for cover crops.

The intent of the proposal is to differentiate between drones used for spraying and drones used to establish cover crops. Staff is concerned about the relatively limited precision capabilities of spraying by drone.

Proposal: Revise the accepted planting costs for cover crops established by drones to \$35/ac.

The intent of the proposal is to recognize the increased costs associated with planting cover crops via drone in standing crops. REAP-eligible planting cost is currently capped at \$25/ac for drilled; and \$18 for broadcast.

4. REAP CAP

Proposal: Set a limit on annual funding per operation, regardless of sponsorship.

The intent of the proposal is to stretch REAP funding to as many farmers as possible in a given round of REAP. Staff often receives multiple applications from the same farm for several BMPs (e.g. cover crops, no-till equipment, manure facilities, etc). Most of these are sponsorships. Since there is no \$ cap for sponsorship applications, a large amount of REAP funding is going to relatively few farmers. Staff feels that, due to funding constraints, it could be time to consider an annual funding cap, regardless of sponsorship.

5. SILVOPASTURE

Proposal: Adopt the silvopasture standard currently under development by Commission staff.

The intent of the proposal is to clarify REAP's standard for Silvopasture and make it consistent with other Commission programs. In effect, the current REAP standard for Silvopasture will be amended to add more details.

6. OTHER: fraud guidelines; alternative fertilizer technologies

Staff will research issues and solicit further input from partners to develop details (if needed) for the March SCC meeting.



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

TO: State Conservation Commission
FROM: Doug Wolfgang, Executive Secretary
RE: Sustainable Agriculture Board - update
DATE: March 1, 2024

The Sustainable Agriculture Act provides the framework for the Sustainable Agriculture Board. The board has now been appointed and inaugural meeting is forthcoming. The board will operate under direction of Mike Roth, Director of Conservation and Innovation, for PDA/SCC. The related program provided under the Act will allow for the board to award grants for sustainable agriculture practices. The list of practices will be determined by the board but will likely include practices that improve soil health and build climate adaption/mitigation/resiliency, such as cover-crops and no-till, agroforestry, silvipasture, precision feeding, on-farm energy systems, manure storage covers and flares, and rotational grazing systems. Staff will provide a brief overview of the program and update on next steps. The seed money for the grants is being provided by EPA through the Most Effective Basin (MEB) award.



**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

DATE: February 27, 2024

TO: State Conservation Commission Members

FROM: Brady Seeley, Director
Nutrient and Odor Management Programs

THROUGH: Douglas M. Wolfgang
Executive Secretary

RE: Nutrient and Odor Management Programs Report

The Nutrient and Odor Management Program Staff of the State Conservation Commission offer the following report of measurable results for the time-period of January / February 2024.

For the months of January and February 2024, staff and delegated conservation districts have:

1. Odor Management Plans:
 - a. 11 OMPs in the review process
 - b. 8 OMPs Approved
2. Reviewed and approved 157 Nutrient Management (NM) Plans in the 4th quarter of 2023.
 - a. Those approved NM plans covered 37,175 acres.
 - b. Those approved NM plans included 68,466 Animal Equivalent Units (AEUs), generating 1,326,110 tons of manure.
3. Managing eleven (11) ACTIVE enforcement or compliance actions, currently in various stages of the compliance or enforcement process. Monitoring an additional one (1) other cases of enforcement / compliance / interest.
4. Continue to daily answer questions for NMP and OMP writers, NMP reviewers, delegated Conservation Districts, and others.
5. Assisted DEP with various functions and as workgroup members in Federal and State settings for the Chesapeake Bay Program.
6. NM/OM Certification/CEC:
 - a. Approved 54 hours of NM and OM continuing education.
 - b. Facilitated the following trainings:

- c. Reviewed 8 Public Review Specialists NMP reviews as part of the certification training.
7. Commercial Manure Hauler / Brokers
 - a. Approved 33 hours of MH/B continuing education.
 - b. 17 Act 49 inspection letters sent (includes in-office, onsite and affidavit letters).
 - c. Facilitated the following trainings:
 8. Issued 14 new (total of 60) Ag 101 seat licenses to CD and DEP staff. 43 persons have already completed and sent in their course completion certificate.



**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

DATE: February 28, 2024
TO: Members, State Conservation Commission
FROM: Karl J. Dymond
 State Conservation Commission *KJ Dymond*
SUBJECT: March 2024 Status Report on Facility Odor Management Plan Reviews

Detailed Report of Recent Odor Management Plan Actions

In accordance with Commission policy, attached is the Odor Management Plans (OMPs) actions report for your review. No formal action is needed on this report unless the Commission would choose to revise any of the plan actions shown on this list at this time. This recent plan actions report details the OMPs that have been acted on by the Commission and the Commission’s Executive Secretary since the last program status report provided to the Commission at the January 2024 Commission meeting.

Program Statistics

Below are the overall program statistics relating to the Commission’s Odor Management Program, representing the activities of the program from its inception in March of 2009, to February 27, 2024.

The table below summarizes approved plans grouped by the Nutrient Management Program Coordinator areas.

	Central	NE/NC	SE/SC	West	Totals
2009	7	6	28	1	42
2010	5	7	25	2	39
2011	10	12	15	2	39
2012	9	17	16	2	44
2013	10	11	38	3	62
2014	13	16	44	2	75
2015	15	15	61	2	93
2016	19	16	59	5	99
2017	25	24	44	3	96
2018	14	13	40	1	68
2019	12	11	14		37
2020	9	11	42	1	63
2021	15	15	30	1	61
2022	16	11	19	2	48
2023	24	12	42	3	81
2024	1	1	6		8
Total	204	198	523	30	
Grand Total					955

As of February 27, 2024, there are nine hundred and fifty-five **approved** plans and/or amendments, nine plans have been **denied**, sixteen plans/ amendments have been **withdrawn** without action taken, one hundred and seven plans/ amendments were **rescinded**, and fourteen plans/ amendments are going through the **plan review process**.

OMP Actions Status Report

Action	OMP Name	County	Municipality	Species	AEUs	OSI Score	Status
1/4/2024	Brubacher, Leonard – Layer Farm	Lancaster	Caernarvon Twp	Layers	114.53	38.9	Appro
1/22/2024	Glenville Farms, LLC – Dairy Farm	Chester	W Fallowfield Twp	Cattle	942.50	25.3	Appro
1/23/2024	Hoover, Chris – Misty Hollow Acres	Lancaster	E Drumore Twp	Layers	63.16	116.6	Appro
1/31/2024	Goss, Timothy R – Goss Family Farm	Mifflin	Decatur Twp	Swine	638.00	16.2	Appro
1/31/2024	Horning, Loren – Broiler Farm	Snyder	Adams Twp	Broilers	169.77	43.7	Appro
1/31/2024	Hurst, Timothy H – Home Farm	Lancaster	Little Britain Twp	Cattle	48.98	27.2	Appro
1/31/2024	Martin, Shawn L – The Martin Farm	Berks	Tulpehocken Twp	Broilers	105.04	56.3	Appro
1/31/2024	Zimmerman, Nathan – Layer Farm	Lebanon	Heidelberg Twp	Layers	251.20	37.2	Appro

As of February 27, 2024



**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

DATE: February 27, 2024

TO: Members
State Conservation Commission

FROM: Brady Seeley, Director
Nutrient and Odor Management Programs

THROUGH: Douglas M. Wolfgang, Executive Secretary
State Conservation Commission

SUBJECT: Nutrient Management Plan Actions

The State Conservation Commission (Commission) approved the Nutrient Management Plan (NMP) Action Policy on May 9, 2023 that allows the Executive Secretary of the Commission to perform actions on Nutrient Management Plans. These NMPs are located in counties whose local conservation district does not have administrative authority under Act 38.

<u>Agricultural Operation (Name and Address)</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Total Acres</u>	<u>Animal Equivalent Units (AEUs)</u>	<u>Operation Type (CAO, CAFO, VAO)</u>	<u>Animal Type</u>	<u>Approval or Disapproval</u>	<u>Date Approved</u>
Lynn Schwalm & Son LLC 1340 Urban Road Herndon, PA 17830	Northumberland	374	280.58	VAO	Beef	Approved	12/27/2023
Fred Schisler 110 St. Johns Road, Littlestown, PA 17340	Adams	44	132.42	CAO	Cattle, equine, swine, poultry, sheep, goat, exotic species	Approved	1/22/2024
Brian Zimmerman 1553 Shamrock Rd Paxinos, PA 17860	Northumberland	34.88	58.3	CAO	Broiler	Approved	1/22/2024
Isaac Winand 1411 Fish & Game Rd East Berlin, PA 17350	Adams	31.8	84.97	CAO	Broiler	Approved	1/22/2024

Duane Basset 48 Gravel Lane Sunbury, PA 17801 Hanover Shoe Farms, Inc-2310 Hanover Pike, Hanover, PA 17331 Wetzel Poultry Farm 2450 Mummasburg Rd, Gettysburg, PA 17325 Keith, Mary Ellen, and Ben Bard 758 Willow Beach Rd Portage, PA 15946 John Jr. and Deborah Winand- 2315 Old Harrisburg Rd, Gettysburg, PA 17325	Northumberland	76.1	68.3	CAO	Poultry, cattle	Approved	2/7/2024
	Adams	2,725	1,093.46	CAFO/ VAO	Equine	Approved	2/7/2024
	Adams	115	405.71	CAFO/ CAO	Tom Turkeys	Approved	2/7/2024
	Cambria	319.92	177.14	VAO	Cattle	Approved	2/7/2024
	Adams	37	220.07	CAO	Turkey	Approved	2/7/2024



BUILDING BRIDGES

Farmers* Municipalities* Citizens
Conservation Districts* Agribusiness

To: Members February 29, 2024
State Conservation Commission
From: Beth Futrick
Agriculture/Public Liaison
Through: Douglas Wolfgang, Executive Secretary
State Conservation Commission
Re: Ombudsman Program Update – Southern Alleghenies Region

Activities: January – February

- Administering NFWF-INSR Grant
 - Preparing for site-showings to install stabilized farm lanes.
 - Preparing bid packages for streambank restoration projects.
 - Organizing 2024 regional farmer events to promote grass-based farms, soil health, and regenerative agricultural practices.
 - Partnering with Project Grass and NRCS for a May 2024 pasture walk in Cambria Co.
- Planning a second ACRE workshop for the Blair County area.
- Administering PADEP Growing Greener Grant
 - This funding will cost-share manure storage design development.
- Southern Alleghenies Conservancy (SAC)– Chair activities
 - Working with SAC treasure to prepare treasure’s report.
 - Managing real estate closing on SAC property.
 - Meeting with SAC accountant to prepare for annual 990 filing.

Conflict Issues/Municipal Assistance

---- McKean County – Manure management issues and clarity on farm definition under RTF
 -----Butler County – Fly and manure complaint
 -----Indiana County – Fly and odor complaint.

Meetings/Trainings/Outreach

--January 11 – Local Food Local Places meeting with Cetner for Population Health (Johnstown)
 --January 17 Keystone Development Center meeting – update on new cooperatives
 --January 18 – Project Grass executive member’s meeting – planning upcoming pasture walk Cambria Co.
 --January 19 –Southern Alleghenies Conservancy lawyer to prepare deed and closing for sale of SAC property
 --January 24 - Keystone Development Center & SBA to prepare for Ag Expo event in Clarion County
 --January 31 – Local Food Local Places meeting with Center for Population Health (Cambria County)
 --February 1 – Blair FSA staff to plan Plain Sect farmer outreach
 --February 8 – PSATS solar panel workshop (Blair County)

Reports & Grant Applications

Preparing a PACD CREP grant to fund multifunctional riparian buffer workshops in 2024.



BUILDING BRIDGES

Farmers * Municipalities * Citizens
Conservation Districts * Agribusiness

To: Members
State Conservation Commission

March 12, 2024

From: Shelly Dehoff
Agriculture/Public Liaison

Re: Agricultural Ombudsman Program Update

Activities: Since mid-January 2024, I have taken part or assisted in a number of events, including the following:

- Coordinating manure injection educational and promotion effort for farmers in Lancaster County, and handling incentive program applications and invoice payment processing; asking to extend one grant to pay invoices
- Events as South Central Task Force (SCTF) Agriculture Subcommittee Planning Specialist:
 - Hosted/facilitated February and March Subcommittee meetings
 - Participated in assorted Exec Comm and TE&E meetings
 - Finalized speakers and topics for Homeland Security Conference
 - Hosted breakout session at State Association of County Fairs meeting about human trafficking and ag
 - Supported large animal response training for first responders
 - Submitted EHP paperwork for large animal handling training in July 2024
 - Gave presentation to Perry County's municipal emergency coordinators about agriculture planning considerations, the SCT Ag Subcomm in general, and answered lots of good questions
 - Lining up farm in Dauphin Co to host a grain bin rescue kit training for Harrisburg fire dept in June
- Participated and recorded minutes for January and February Lancaster Co. Agriculture Council meeting
- Finalized details for breakout session at PSATS convention in April 2024; titled ACRE 101 with ACRE staff
- Co-coordinated Conservation Foundation of Lanc Co meetings, and Exec Comm meetings
- Attended multiple PA FPR group meetings and one off-shooting work group meeting
- Working on publication for statewide distribution related to manure spill response for farmers at request of Franklin Co CD
- Participated in PA's Workforce Development Board meetings
- Provided large supply of OMB-produced publications to DEP CD Field Rep, plus spent time explaining OMB program to him, in person
- Beth and I had virtual meeting with a graduate student at Univ of Wisconsin; explaining the OMB program; and specifically giving him ideas for how to handle conflict related to mitigation of nuisance wildlife between farmers and neighbors; suggested small focus groups for better communications, among other things

Local Government Interaction: I have been asked to provide educational input regarding agriculture:

- **None currently**

Moderation or Liaison Activities: I have been asked to provide moderation or liaison assistance with a particular situation:

- **Chester Co**—revisited Mushroom Farmers of PA meeting and Phorid Fly Action Committee (PFAC) meetings to be up to date on research activities, phorid fly situations locally, and always appreciating the model of collaborative efforts that this PFAC group has created.

Research and Education Activities:

- **Lancaster Co**—Legislative office asked for assessment of a situation about animals living in wet/manure conditions; no concerns found
- **Lebanon Co**—responded to request from PDA to investigate report of questionable living conditions for livestock at multiple locations; no legitimate concerns found
- **Lancaster Co**—request from local private school about stormwater easement projects and permitting; coordinated response between LCCD E&S staff to find answers/guidance

- **Westmoreland Co**—person interested in creating equine cemetery and advice on mortality composting; Beth and I are connecting her with PDA, DEP and Extension for permitting advice and educational advice, beyond baseline information that Beth and I can provide
- **Lancaster Co**—FFA student asked for research sources about groundwater and surface water quality to include in a public speaking contest speech
- **Lancaster Co**—person living near golf course concerned about the golf course cutting down trees that are decades old without obvious disease or safety reasons

Fly Complaint Response Coordination: I have taken complaints or am coordinating fly-related issues in:

- **None currently**