

Governor John R. Kasich
Lieutenant Governor Mary Taylor
Director James Zehringer

Livestock Environmental Permitting Program
A.B. Graham Building
8995 East Main Street, Reynoldsburg, OH 43068
Phone: 614-387-0470 • Fax: 614-728-6335
www.agri.ohio.gov • lepp@agri.ohio.gov

Blue Stream Dairy **Draft Permit to Install and Draft Permit to Operate**

Overview of the Farm

Blue Stream Dairy is located in Van Wert County, Tully Township, at 3242 Mentzer Church Road in Convoy, Ohio. The farm, which is in the Auglaize Watershed, is owned and operated by Blue Stream Dairy, Inc.

Blue Stream Dairy currently houses 650 dairy cows in two freestall barns. Under state law, the farm is allowed up to 699 dairy cows without requiring a permit from the Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA).

Overview of the draft Permit to Install

The draft Permit to Install (PTI) includes the addition of a freestall barn housing 525 cows. An existing building capable of housing up to 200 maternity and special needs cows, would allow the dairy to stock 1,250 dairy cows.

Blue Stream Dairy already has an 11.6 million gallon manure storage pond and a 350,000 gallon settling basin to provide 333 days of storage, which exceeds the ODA minimum of 180 days.

The facility will utilize a flush system and all the barns would be scraped to a central flume running south to north through the barns into a sand lane system to remove the sand from the manure for reuse. The sand would be collected in the sand lane and stacked on a stacking pad draining back into the sand lanes. The liquid manure would be collected in a settling basin at the end of the sand lanes and flow into the existing pond. All contaminated storm water runoff would be collected in the manure storage pond.

Overview of the draft Permit to Operate

Blue Stream Dairy has also been issued a draft Permit to Operate (PTO) for the entire farm that includes plans for manure management, insect and rodent control, mortality management, and emergency response. The PTO would be valid for five years, at which time the owner would be required to renew the operating permit.

The annual predicted manure production from the cattle, wash/wastewater the parlor and precipitation is approximately 13.1 million gallons. The dairy has approximately 1,102 acres available for the application of the manure. The manure in the storage pond would be applied by an application contractor.

A five-year cropping rotation is proposed on the 1,102 acres. The expected yields are: soybeans, 55 bushels per acre; corn silage, 26 tons per acre; wheat, 70 bushels per acre; and corn grain, 175 bushels per acre.

The manure nutrient analysis for Blue Stream Dairy is based on manure samples from a similar facility. The estimated nutrients that will be available for land application as a substitute for chemical fertilizer is as follows:

Nitrogen (N) = 178,080 pounds
Phosphate (P_2O_5) = 98,895 pounds
Potash (K_2O) = 201,784 pounds

The Insect and Rodent Control Plan is required as part of the draft PTO to minimize the presence and negative effects of insects and rodents. It includes monitoring the facility on a daily basis for flies and rodents and contacting a third party vendor if assistance is needed. More details on the Insect and Rodent Control Plan can be found in the draft PTO.

The Mortality Management Plan describes how mortality will be handled at the dairy. Approved methods for disposal of mortality are burying, burning, rendering, land filling or composting. The option chosen by this farm is rendering, using G&G, Inc. of Ft. Wayne, Indiana.

Finally, an Emergency Response Plan is required to ensure accidents or emergencies are handled quickly and efficiently to maintain the safety of the environment, wildlife, and water supplies. Any manure spills will be stopped, contained, and cleaned up immediately. In case of a manure spill, equipment and prearranged emergency response agreements are in place. In case of fire, there is an emergency response information sheet to assist farm personnel in contacting local fire protection districts.

North Point Engineering Corporation of Canton, Ohio, prepared the Permit to Operate and Permit to Install.

