

STATE OF MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY JACKSON DISTRICT OFFICE



DAN WYANT DIRECTOR

VN No. 2AN-8KSD-RZF3

November 6, 2015

CERTIFIED MAIL

Mr. Brad A. Hart, Owner Hartland Farms, Incorporated 1580 Hughes Highway Clayton, Michigan 49235

Dear Mr. Hart:

Violation Notice SUBJECT:

Hartland Farms – CAFO

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Water Resources Division (WRD), has determined that Hartland Farms-CAFO is in violation of National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. MI0057536, which was issued and became effective on October 23, 2012.

On October 2, 2015 and October 6, 2015, DEQ staff received complaints that multiple fields managed by Hartland Farms CAFO had received manure applications without incorporation within 24 hours as required by your permit. During a subsequent phone conversation between yourself and DEQ staff on October 8, 2015 it was confirmed that due to logistical issues and field management practices for erosion control that several fields received manure applications that were not incorporated within 24 hours (and did not meet the permit exemptions for incorporation).

NPDES Permit No. MI0057536 states that "CAFO waste shall be subsurface injected or incorporated into the soil within 24 hours of application" (Page 12). Exemptions to this requirement include: "Injection or incorporation may not be feasible where CAFO wastes are applied to pastures, forage crops such as alfalfa, wheat stubble, or where no-till practices are used" (Page 12). CAFO waste is defined as "CAFO process wastewater, manure, production area waste, effluents from the properly and successfully operated treatment system, or any combination thereof" (Page 20).

Pursuant to the phone conversation with DEQ staff, it was determined that the permit violation identified in this Violation Notice is continuing.

Hartland Farms-CAFO should take immediate action to achieve and maintain compliance with the terms and conditions of NPDES Permit No. MI0057536.

Given the nature of this violation and the phone conversation on October 8, 2015, regarding its resolution, DEQ staff proposes scheduling a meeting with you to discuss possible changes to farm management practices to ensure that all permit requirements are met. Please contact Ms. Rachel Koleda (contact information listed below) by no later than December 14, 2015 to schedule a meeting.

If you have any factual information you would like us to consider regarding the violations identified in this Notice, please provide them as a written response.

We anticipate and appreciate your cooperation in resolving this matter. Should you require further information regarding this Notice or to arrange a meeting to discuss it, please contact me at 517-416-4073; KoledaR@michigan.gov; or DEQ, WRD, Jackson District Office, 301 East Louis Glick Highway, Jackson, Michigan 49201-1535

Sincerely,

Rachel Koleda
Jackson District Office
Water Resources Division

517-416-4073

cc: File: CAFO, Lenawee County, Hartland Farms, MI0057536, Correspondence File