



DEPARTMENT of ENVIRONMENT  
and NATURAL RESOURCES

JOE FOSS BUILDING  
523 EAST CAPITOL  
PIERRE, SOUTH DAKOTA 57501-3182

denr.sd.gov

December 14, 2016

Frido Verpaalen  
Volga Dairy  
46318 214<sup>th</sup> Street  
Volga, SD 57071-6346

RE: Volga Dairy Manure Management System  
As-Built Plans Review

Dear Mr. Verpaalen:

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) received three copies of the as-built plans for the modifications to your approved manure management system on December 12, 2016. The manure management system is located in the Southwest  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 34, Township 110 North, Range 51 West in Brookings County, South Dakota.

Your permitted manure management system is for a housed lot feeding a maximum of 1,750-head of dairy cattle consisting of 1,630 mature dairy cows and 120 calves. Your system consists of two freestall barns and a special needs barn with flush systems, a dry cow barn, a manure pack calf barn, a manure reception pit, a milk parlor, a special needs milk parlor, a manure solids separator, piping, diversion dikes or channels, a feed storage area, a solid manure stacking area, two holding ponds, and 0.8 acres of drainage area. The solids stacking pad is designed for at least 270 days of solids storage capacity. The designed capacity of the holding ponds is at least 270 days of liquid storage capacity. The department has approved plans for placing concrete on the manure stacking area, additions on one of the existing freestall barns, two calf sheds, and increasing the maximum animal numbers to 1,900-head of dairy cattle consisting of 1,750-head of mature dairy cattle and 150 calves.

We approved revised plans and specifications for the calf sheds on November 23, 2016. The as-built changes consist of the following:

- The newly constructed north shed will be used for hay storage instead of housing calf huts; and
- A plan sheet showing the extent of the concrete placed on the solid manure stacking area was submitted.

We have reviewed and hereby approve the changes shown on the as-built plans. Two copies of the as-built plans are being kept for our files. Please replace the appropriate pages in your plans

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and specifications booklet with the revised pages enclosed with this letter and add any additional pages enclosed with this letter into your plans and specifications booklet.

### **Proposed Barns**

The as-built site plan sheet includes a proposed calf barn and a proposed freestall barn that have not been approved. The proposed barns are currently in a 30 day public comment period, being reviewed by DENR, and will be addressed in a separate letter. **You cannot begin construction of the proposed barns without department approval.**

You are responsible for contacting the local planning and zoning office in the county where manure application will take place to determine if there are any local ordinances or requirements with which you need to comply. It is up to local government to enforce their local ordinances.

New federal regulations for concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFO's) were published in the *Federal Register* on November 20, 2008. Federal law dictates that these types of permits expire every five years, at which time the state has to reissue a new permit. The current general permit expired October 19, 2008, and is currently administratively extended. Until program changes can be made and a new general permit is issued, the current permit will remain in effect. A contested case hearing was held on September 27-29, 2016. More information can be found on the department's one-stop contested case website at <http://denr.sd.gov/ccdocs.aspx?CCID=CCID25>.

Once the permit is reissued, the department will provide every permitted and approved operation information about when they need to apply for coverage under the reissued permit and the options they need to consider.

If you have any questions regarding the content of this letter, please feel free to contact Ben Myers, Feedlot Permit Program at (605) 773-3351. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,



Kent R. Woodmansey, PE, Engineering Manager  
Feedlot Permit Program

cc: Brian Friedrichsen, PE, DEC, Huron, SD  
Luke Muller, F.D.A.L.G., Watertown, SD  
Brookings County Commissioner