



**DEPARTMENT of AGRICULTURE  
and NATURAL RESOURCES**

JOE FOSS BUILDING  
523 E CAPITOL AVE  
PIERRE SD 57501-3182  
danr.sd.gov

January 20, 2026

Wim Hammink  
Hammink Dairy, LLC  
19890 470<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Bruce, SD 57220-5208

RE: Hammink Dairy, LLC – Biogas RNG Facility  
As-Built Plans and Specifications Review – Digester Covered Lagoon Modification

Dear Mr. Hammink:

The Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources (DANR) received an electronic copy of as-built plans and additional documentation for the biogas facility's modified covered digester lagoon. The biogas facility is located at, will use manure from, and be covered under Hammink Dairy, LLC's state permit coverage under the 2017 *General Water Pollution Control Permit for Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations* (general permit), **permit number SDG-100065**. The biogas facility is located at your South Unit in the Southwest  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 22, Township 112 North, Range 50 West in Brookings County, South Dakota. Your North Unit is located in the Southeast  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 15, Township 112 North, Range 50 West in Brookings County, South Dakota.

DANR conditionally approved plans and specifications for the biogas facility on July 13, 2023, February 9, 2024, October 2, 2024, November 12, 2024, and December 12, 2024. On August 18, 2025, DANR conditionally approved plans and specifications for proposed modifications to the biogas facility's previously constructed digester lagoon to address a leakage issue and bring the digester lagoon into compliance with general permit requirements. Please refer to these letters and the department's other previous letters for descriptions of the previously approved and permitted manure management system for your dairy feeding operation.

Additional documentation submitted included the Quality Assurance/Quality Control (QA/QC) documentation for installation of an HDPE liner in the digester lagoon and an LLDPE cover over the digester lagoon.

As-built changes to the previously approved plans and specifications consisted of:

- Addressed a condition in the August 18, 2025, conditional approval regarding the anchoring of the 8-inch and 6-inch sludge removal pipes by showing the use of precast concrete pipe anchors with sacrificial double layers of HDPE liner placed under the anchors.
- The department included earthen liner testing requirements in the August 18, 2025, conditional approval letter. Because of the specific testing requirements listed in the approval were not followed, a compacted earthen liner shown to meet general permit requirements cannot be approved. The submitted as-built plans and specifications and additional documentation

indicate the installed HDPE liner does meet general permit requirements and is being accepted. For the purposes of permitting, only the HDPE liner is being recognized as meeting permit requirements.

- The cover letter submitted with the as-built plans and Notice of Completion states proposed mixers were not installed in the covered lagoon and that installation of these mixers may be done at a later date, at which time updated seam test results (of the LLDPE cover) would be provided with an updated Notice of Completion.

We have reviewed and hereby conditionally approve the submitted as-built plans and specifications for the anaerobic digester biogas facility's covered digester lagoon. We also accept the results of the QA/QC documentation for the installation of the lagoon's HDPE liner and LLDPE cover as meeting general permit requirements. Permit coverage and an amended Certificate of Compliance for the completed covered digester lagoon will be issued in a separate letter.

The requirements in the department's previous conditional approval letters are incorporated into this letter.

An electronic copy of the approved application will be made available to you for your use. If you are unable to access the files, please contact the department. An electronic copy of the as-built plans and other submitted documentation are being kept for our files.

Continued compliance is dependent upon you performing proper operation and maintenance activities. You will be liable for any noncompliance with applicable South Dakota environmental laws or regulations.

Our review covers works of sanitary significance and does not cover items such as quality of material, structural soundness, or electrical and mechanical design features. The Livestock Services Program does not review electrical, gas, boiler, control systems, or other items not related to the transport, treatment, and containment of manure or process wastewater. These items are not covered under our approval. Approval of the plans and specifications does not in any way release the applicant from the responsibility that the project will be an operable facility when construction is completed.

If you have any questions regarding the content of this letter, please feel free to contact Keith Miller, Livestock Services Program, at (605) 882-5051. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,



Neal J. Konda, PE, Natural Resources Engineer  
Livestock Services Program  
Phone: (605) 773-4647

cc: Brandon McLellan, Director of Project Management, POET Bioprocessing (email)  
Nathan Westhoff, PE, POET Design & Construction (email)  
~~Brookings County Commissioners~~  
Luke Muller, FDALG, Watertown, SD (email)