

## STATE OF MICHIGAN

## DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY





October 2, 2018

VN No. VN-008794

## **CERTIFIED MAIL**

Mr. and Mrs. Jim and JoLynne Bleecker, Owners Terrehaven Farms 3007 Wolf Creek Highway Adrian, Michigan 49221

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Bleecker:

SUBJECT: Violation Notice

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Water Resources Division (WRD), inspected the Terrehaven Farms - CAFO, located at 3007 Wolf Creek Highway, Adrian, Michigan, on July 30, 2018, to determine compliance with Part 31, Water Resources Protection, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended (NREPA), MCL 324.3101 et seq., and the administrative rules promulgated thereunder being 2006 AACS R 323.2101 et seq., as amended; and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Certificate of Coverage No. MIG010061; which was issued and effective on January 23, 2017.

During the inspection on July 30, 2018, WRD staff noted the following concerns:

- 1. The eastern collection area (on the southern portion of the farmstead) was not being properly maintained and there were signs that production area waste had overflowed to the agricultural field to the east. NPDES Certificate of Coverage No. MIG010061 requires that all concentrated animal feeding operation (CAFO) production area waste be collected and stored in a properly designed and maintained structure until it can be land applied or otherwise properly disposed of. During the inspection the farm indicated that animals no longer need to be kept in these barns, and that there were plans to completely remove animals from this location. Notification that animals had been removed from the eastern barns was received on August 1, 2018, however, all waste had not been removed from the barns and the waste collection area.
- 2. A small section of the concrete pad was missing near the northeast corner of the central barn on the southern part of the farmstead. The farm stated that the concrete had been removed to complete some repairs to a water hydrant. This location is used as a manure transfer area and the concrete needs to be replaced to ensure that all CAFO production area waste is collected and transferred to the appropriate waste storage structure. During the inspection the farm indicated that this concrete would be repaired.

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- 3. The southwest corner of the silage storage pad where the "fruit" feed additive is stored did not have adequate containment. At the time of the inspection there were signs that runoff from the feed additive storage area had overflowed the berm and flowed to the vegetated areas south and west of the silage pad. During the inspection it was discussed that the cement blocks on the west and south sides of this area need to be resituated to form a complete border and need to be backfilled with clay. The blocks along the south side of the silage pad also need to be extended to the east to ensure that all runoff from the feed additive storage area is collected. Organic debris on the south and west sides of the pad should be cleaned up as much as possible and the area re-seeded with perennial vegetation.
- 4. Significant amounts of corn particulate were observed within the vegetated area on the west side of the silage pad. This was discussed during the inspection and it was agreed that cement blocks should be added and back-filled with clay all along the western side of the silage pad. The farm also discussed the use of water in the processing of the corn to reduce production of the particulate.
- 5. Organic residue was present on the ground near the storm water collection drain located just north of the southern animal barns. The way this collection area is currently designed there is potential for stormwater carrying excess nutrients from the feed lanes to reach this area and be discharged off site. The location is also very near the manure storage and spillover could reach the drain and be discharged off site as well. Several possible solutions to ensure that this drain collects only clean storm water were discussed during the inspection. The farm will need to provide a plan for how they will address this.
- 6. Depth marker was not visible within the northern liquid waste storage structure. The depth marker needs to be repaired in the northern liquid manure storage.
- 7. Significant amounts of manure residue were present along the upper edges of the northern liquid waste storage structure berms. Manure residue needs to be cleaned from the upper sides of the northern manure storage berms; this will ensure that weekly inspections of the lagoons can be completed appropriately.
- 8. Used sawdust was being stored on the gravel driveway between the northern-most barns (on the northern portion of the farmstead). Runoff from this area was not being collected within a waste storage structure. It was discussed during the inspection that the used sawdust is considered production area waste and needs to be stored in an area where runoff will be properly collected and stored. The farm indicated that the material could be moved to another location on the farm where all runoff would be collected within a waste storage structure.
- 9. The cement blocks on the southwest corner of the solid manure storage (located on the west side of the northern barns) were slightly displaced and it appeared that some solid manure had spilled out to the vegetated area on the west side of the blocks. During the inspection it was agreed that the concrete blocks need to be re-positioned so that they form a solid wall. In addition, the west side of the area where the repairs occur should be backfilled with clay and seeded with perennial vegetation.

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The violations identified in this Violation Notice (above) are violations of Part 31, Water Resources Protection, of the NREPA, and NPDES Certificate of Coverage No. MIG010061. Terrehaven Farms - CAFO should take immediate action to achieve and maintain compliance with the terms and conditions of NPDES Certificate of Coverage No. MIG010061

To resolve the concerns listed above, please take the following actions:

- 1. Submit photographic documentation that all CAFO waste has been removed from the eastern collection area. This information should be submitted through the MiWaters database by December 1, 2018.
- 2. Submit photographic documentation that the concrete near the water hydrant has been repaired. This information should be submitted through the MiWaters database by December 1, 2018.
- 3. Submit photographic documentation that concrete blocks have been re-aligned and added along the southwest corner of the silage pad. Photographs should demonstrate that cement blocks have been moved and that the area to the west has been backfilled with clay and seeded. This information should be submitted through the MiWaters database by June 1, 2019.
- 4. Submit photographic documentation that concrete blocks have been added along the western side of the silage pad. Photographs should demonstrate that cement blocks have been moved and that the area to the west has been backfilled with clay and seeded. This information should be submitted through the MiWaters database by June 1, 2019.
- 5. Provide a written response describing how the farm will ensure that only clean storm water is collected in the stormwater drain near the northern portion of the southern animal barns. The written response should include a timeline for when the proposed work will be completed. This written response should be submitted through the MiWaters database by December 1, 2018.
- 6. Submit photographic documentation that the depth marker has been repaired in the northern liquid manure storage structure. This information should be submitted through the MiWaters database by June 1, 2019.
- 7. Submit photographic documentation that the manure residue has been removed from the upper sides of the northern manure storage berm. This information should be submitted through the MiWaters database by June 1, 2019.
- 8. Submit photographic documentation that the used sawdust has been moved to a location where all runoff water will be collected in a waste storage structure. This information should be submitted through the MiWaters database by December 1, 2018.
- 9. Submit photographic documentation that concrete blocks have been re-aligned and added along the southwest corner of the northern solid manure structure. Photographs should demonstrate that cement blocks have been moved and that the area to the west

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has been backfilled with clay and seeded. This information should be submitted through the MiWaters database by June 1, 2019.

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

We anticipate and appreciate your cooperation in resolving this matter. Should you require further information regarding this Violation Notice or if you would like to arrange a meeting to discuss it, please contact me at 517-416-4073; burnsr6@michigan.gov; or DEQ, WRD, Jackson District Office, 301 East Louis Glick Highway, Jackson, Michigan 49201-1535.

Sincerely,

Rachel Burns

Environmental Quality Analyst Water Resources Division

Kachel Burns