

General information

Public comment period begins: October 2, 2020
Public comment period ends: November 2, 2020 (4:30 p.m.)
Current permit issued: February 8, 2018
Current permit expiration date: January 31, 2021

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) Commissioner has made a preliminary determination to modify this permit for a term of approximately four months.

Name and address of Permittee:	Facility name and location:	MPCA contact person:
Landsowne LLP Michael Crinion 126 Pine Ridge Rd Brookings, SD 57006-3637	Ash Grove Dairy LLP 1771 130th Ave Lake Benton, MN 56149-4241 Lincoln County T110N, R46W, Section 029	Klayton VanOverbeke Watershed Division Minnesota Pollution Control Agency 504 Fairgrounds Road, Suite 200 Marshall, MN 56258-1688 Phone: 507-476-4276 Email: klayton.vanoverbeke@state.mn.us
		File manager phone: 651-757-2728 or 1-844-828-0942

Watershed: Upper Big Sioux River

Description of Ash Grove Dairy LLP

This is a public notice of intent to modify coverage under the State of Minnesota General Animal Feedlot National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit. A copy of this General permit is available for review on the MPCA webpage <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/water/npdes-and-sds-permits>. Copies of the permit application and any additional materials relating to the issuance of this permit are available for inspection by appointment at any MPCA office (<https://www.pca.state.mn.us/about-mpca/mpca-offices>) between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. The MPCA will mail or email a copy of the General permit, permit application, and any supporting documentation upon request. Comments, petitions, and other requests must be received at the MPCA in writing on or before the public comment period end date and time identified above.

The facility is currently permitted for 1,385 head of mature dairy cows (1,939 animal units (AU)) and 200 head of dairy calves (40 AU) for a total of 1,979 AU housed in three existing and two approved total confinement barns. Manure generated at the facility is currently stored in an existing 275 foot wide by 675 foot long by 27 foot deep liquid manure storage basin, a sand lane, and two permanent stockpile locations. The facility is proposing to increase its manure storage capacity by constructing an additional 550 foot wide by 110 foot long by 15 foot deep liquid manure storage basin as well as a 30 foot tall by 47 foot radius steel tank with two associated manure digester operation buildings.

The proposed construction and expansion at the facility will result in an increased liquid manure storage capacity by 4.25 million gallons. No changes to the animal holding areas or animal holding capacity are being proposed with this modification. This will be an issuance of the current NPDES General Permit that includes the proposed construction and expansion.

The preliminary determination to modify this feedlot permit is tentative.

Procedure for public participation

As stated in Minn. R. chs. 7000 and 7001, there are three formal procedures for public participation in the MPCA's consideration of this matter. Interested persons may:

- (1) Submit written comments on the permit application and the preliminary determination to issue coverage under a general permit.
- (2) Petition the MPCA to hold a public informational meeting.

- (3) Petition the MPCA to hold a contested case hearing.

Only the portions of the permit coverage that are proposed to be modified are open for comment and petition.

Submitting written comments

To submit comments or petitions to the MPCA through the mail or email, you must state:

- (1) Your interest in the permit application and the preliminary determination to issue coverage under a general permit.
- (2) The action you wish the MPCA to take, including specific references to the application materials you believe should be changed.
- (3) The reasons supporting your position, stated with sufficient specificity as to allow the MPCA to investigate the merits of the position.

Public informational meeting

A public informational meeting is an informal meeting during which interested persons can ask questions concerning the proposed facility. MPCA staff will be present to provide information. If an interested person would like the MPCA to hold a public informational meeting, the person should include all information identified above and in addition include a statement of the reasons the person desires the MPCA to hold a public informational meeting and the issues that the person would like the agency to address at the public informational meeting.

Contested Case Hearing

A contested case hearing is a formal proceeding before an administrative law judge empowered to advise the MPCA regarding issues of fact. As described in Minn. R. 7000.1800, persons who submit petitions for a contested case hearing must also state the issues they propose to address in a contested case hearing, the specific relief requested or resolution of the matter, and the reasons (which may be in the form of proposed findings) supporting an MPCA decision to hold a contested case hearing. Failure to comply with these rules exactly may result in a denial of the request. To the extent known, the petitioner may also submit a list of prospective witnesses to be called at a hearing, a proposed list of publications, references, or studies to be introduced at a hearing and the approximate time required for the petitioner to present the matter at a hearing. The decision whether to hold a contested case hearing will be made under Minn. R. 7000.1900.