Public Notice of intent to modify
Feedlots
Permit MNG450163

General information
Public comment period begins: September 21, 2020
Public comment period ends: October 21, 2020 (4:30 p.m.)
Current permit issued: July 26, 2016
Current permit expiration date: June 1, 2025

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

Name and address of Permittee:
Horizon Farm
108 Brian Ct
Mapleton, Minnesota 56065

Facility name and location:
Horizon Farm
13806 465th Ave
Blue Earth, Minnesota 56013

MPCA contact person:
Mark P. Gernes
Watershed Division
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
12 Civic Center Plaza, Suite 2165
Mankato, MN 56001
Phone: 507-344-5260
Email: mark.p.gernes@state.mn.us

File manager phone: 651-757-2728 or 1-844-828-0942

Watershed: Blue Earth River

Description of Horizon Farm
This is a public notice to modify a manure management plan for an Animal Feedlot that currently has coverage under the State of Minnesota General Animal Feedlot State Disposal System (SDS) Permit. A copy of the manure management plan modification as well as any additional materials relating to the modification 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 manure management plan modification 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 has proposed to modify the previously-approved Manure Management Plan (MMP) by retaining some of the manure generated from the facility and including two land-application areas where retained manure will be applied, neither of which were included in the original MMP.

The preliminary determination to modify 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 modify 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 modify coverage under a general permit.
2. The action you wish the MPCA to take, including specific references to the section of the draft permit 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.