



**AUTHORIZATION TO CONSTRUCT AND OPERATE
A CONCENTRATED ANIMAL FEEDING OPERATION
UNDER THE NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES) PROGRAM
MNG441961**

Permittee: John Perschbacher Trust
Facility name: John Perschbacher Hog Farm - Conger
Address: 20507 670th Ave
Alden, MN 56009
Registration number: 047-125950
Maximum AU capacity: 1,500.000
Issuance date: TBD
Expiration date: January 31, 2026

The state of Minnesota, on behalf of its citizens through the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), authorizes the Permittee named above seeking coverage under this general permit to construct and operate a concentrated animal feeding operation in accordance with the requirements of this permit.

The goal of this permit is to reduce pollutant levels in point source discharges and protect water quality in accordance with the U.S. Clean Water Act, Minnesota statutes and rules, and federal laws and regulations.

This coverage is effective on the issuance date identified above. This permit expires at midnight on the expiration date identified above.

Signature: *(Type e-Signature)* for the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

This document has been electronically signed.

Steven Schmidt
Supervisor
East Feedlot Unit
Watershed Division

Permit application & annual reports:
Refer to the submittal process outlined on the Animal Feedlot NPDES General Permit webpage at: <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/business-with-us/npdes-and-sds-feedlot-permits>.

Questions on this permit?
If you have any questions, please contact the MPCA feedlot program staff person assigned to Freeborn County.
Current MPCA staff contacts are identified on our website at: <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/business-with-us/feedlots>.

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1. Authorized facility components

Site description	Component description	Status	Type	Length (ft)	Width (ft)	Depth (ft)	Capacity	Units	Animal type and head
John Perschbacher Hog Farm - Conger	North Barn	Active / Existing	LMSA - Under Total Confinement Barn	416	51	9	1426351	gallons	
John Perschbacher Hog Farm - Conger	South Barn	Active / Existing	LMSA - Under Total Confinement Barn	416	51	9	1426351	gallons	
John Perschbacher Hog Farm - Conger	North Barn	Active / Existing	Total Confinement with Underfloor Liquid Storage	416	51		21216	square feet	Swine 55-300 lbs 2,500
John Perschbacher Hog Farm - Conger	South Barn	Active / Existing	Total Confinement with Underfloor Liquid Storage	416	51		21216	square feet	Swine 55-300 lbs 2,500

2. Permit requirements

1.1	Permit Coverage. [Minn. R. 7020]
1.2	Upon the date of receiving notification of coverage under this Permit from the MPCA, the Permittee is authorized to construct and operate the facility according to the submitted and MPCA-approved permit application materials (application materials) and in compliance with the requirements of this Permit, all requirements of Minn. R. ch. 7020, and any other applicable state and federal rules and regulations. No condition of this Permit shall release the Permittee from any responsibility or requirements under other federal, state, tribal, or local statutes, rules, or regulations. The application materials are an enforceable part of this Permit. [Minn. R. 7001.0150]
1.3	If at any point the MPCA determines that the application materials are deficient, the Permittee shall submit an amendment within 45 days of being notified by the MPCA. Upon receipt of MPCA approval, the amended application materials shall become an enforceable part of this Permit. The Permittee shall comply with the most recently MPCA-approved application materials. [Minn. R. 7001.0150]
1.4	After notice and opportunity for a hearing, this Permit may be modified, suspended, or revoked in accordance with Minn. R. 7001.0170 through 7001.0190. The Permittee shall comply with the terms and conditions of this Permit until such action is finalized. [Minn. R. 7001]
1.5	<p>In order to maintain continuous permit coverage, the Permittee shall submit an application for permit reissuance : Due by 180 days prior to permit expiration. If the Permittee has provided a timely application for issuance of coverage under the new general animal feedlot NPDES permit, the Permittee may continue to conduct the activities authorized by this Permit, in compliance with the requirements of this Permit, until the MPCA takes final action on the application, unless the MPCA determines that any of the following are true:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) The Permittee is not in substantial compliance with the requirements of this Permit, nor with a stipulation agreement or compliance schedule designed to bring the Permittee into compliance with this Permit;b) The MPCA, as a result of an action or failure to act by the Permittee, has been unable to take final action on the application on or before the permit expiration date; orc) The Permittee has submitted an application with major deficiencies or has failed to properly supplement the application in a timely manner after being informed of deficiencies. [Minn. R. 7001.0160, Minn. R. 7020.0505]
1.6	In order to terminate coverage under this Permit, the Permittee shall submit a termination request to the MPCA at least 30 days in advance of the desired permit coverage termination date. If the MPCA determines that NPDES permit coverage is not required, coverage under this Permit will terminate upon receiving written approval from the MPCA. The Permittee shall comply with the terms and conditions of this Permit until the termination action is finalized. [Minn. R. 7001.0040]
2.1	Permit Modifications. [Minn. R. 7020]
2.2	The Permittee shall submit a permit application prior to all modifications. (Guidance pertaining to modifications can be found in the MPCA factsheet " <i>Modification of NPDES and SDS Feedlot Permits (wq-f3-49)</i> ".). [Minn. R. 7020.0405]
2.3	The permit application should be submitted at least 180 days before the planned starting date of the modification. [Minn. R. 7020.0505]
2.4	The modification for which the permit application was submitted shall not begin until approval is received from the MPCA. [Minn. R. 7020.0405]
2.5	Prior to a change in ownership or control of the facility, a change of ownership request must be submitted to assign coverage under this Permit to the new owner/operator. If ownership or control changes without an assignment of coverage under this Permit, the original Permittee may still be held liable for violations and the new owner/operator may be held liable for operating without a permit. If modifications to the facility or changes to the application materials will also occur, the process for permit modifications described above must also be followed. [Minn. R. 7020.0405]
2.6	Prior to changes in facility name, the Permittee shall submit a change of name request and the MPCA shall issue a permit modification reflecting the new name. [Minn. R. 7020.0405]
3.1	Submittals and Notifications to the MPCA. [Minn. R. 7020]

3.2	The Permittee shall submit all notifications, reports, applications, modification requests, correspondence, and other permit related materials to the MPCA on a specified form and/or in a specified format, including instances when the MPCA requires electronic submission. All submittals shall be to the MPCA address, telephone number, or electronic mail address indicated with the notice of coverage under this Permit. [Minn. R. 7001.0150]
3.3	All reports required by this Permit and other information requested by the MPCA shall be signed and certified by the Permittee or by a duly authorized representative. A person is a duly authorized representative only if: a) The authorization is made in writing by the Permittee or owner(s) and submitted to the MPCA; and b) The authorization specifies either an individual or a position having responsibility for the overall operation of the regulated facility. [Minn. R. 7001.0150]
3.4	The Permittee shall not knowingly make a false or misleading statement, representation, or certification in a record, report, plan, or other document required to be submitted to the MPCA by this Permit. The Permittee shall immediately upon discovery report to the MPCA an error or omission in these records, reports, plans, or other documents. [Minn. R. 7001.0150]
4.1	Manure Nutrient Testing. [Minn. R. 7020]
4.2	The Permittee shall sample and analyze manure for nutrient content annually. Manure shall also be sampled following any changes to conditions that may significantly affect the nutrient content. [40 CFR 412.4, Minn. R. 7020.2225]
4.3	The Permittee's manure sampling protocol shall be consistent with the most recent published MES recommendations. Manure samples must be taken from enough sources so that nutrient content is known for each storage area with differing types of animals, feed, watering systems, manure handling, or other variables that may affect manure nutrient content. [Minn. R. 7020.2225]
5.1	Transfer of Manure Ownership. [Minn. R. 7020]
5.2	The Permittee is responsible for management of manure from the facility unless it is transferred to another party for land application on fields that are not owned or leased or otherwise controlled by the Permittee. At the time the other party assumes physical control of the manure, the manure ownership is considered to be transferred. The Permittee is responsible for manure hauled by, or for, the Permittee until it is physically relinquished to the other person. [Minn. R. 7001.0150]
5.3	Except for emergency manure application, the Permittee is prohibited from transferring ownership of manure to a recipient that will: a) perform winter application of the transferred liquid manure; or b) perform winter application during the months of March of the transferred solid manure. [Minn. R. 7001.0150]
5.4	The Permittee shall provide to the recipient of the manure, at the time of transfer of ownership, Attachment A of the MPCA form " <i>Manure Management Plan Requirements when Ownership of Manure is Transferred (wq-f8-12)</i> ". Attachment A is a summary of state requirements that a recipient of manure must follow. [Minn. R. 7001.0150]
5.5	Updates to a transferred ownership manure management plan do not require a modification of this Permit so long as they are consistent with the requirements of Minn. R. 7020.2225. [Minn. R. 7001.0190]
5.6	The Permittee is required to apply for a permit modification when the Permittee obtains control over land application acres that were previously controlled by a third party. [Minn. R. 7020.0405]
6.1	Requirements for Operation and Maintenance of the Facility. [Minn. R. 7020]
6.2	For any facility meeting the definition of New Source, the Permittee shall ensure that the production area is designed, constructed, operated, and maintained to contain all manure, manure-contaminated runoff, or process wastewater, and all direct precipitation. [40 CFR 412, Minn. R. 7020.2003]
6.3	For any facility the does not meet the definition of New Source, the Permittee shall ensure that the production area is designed, constructed, operated, and maintained to contain all manure, manure-contaminated runoff, or process wastewater, and the direct precipitation from a 25-year, 24-hour storm event as defined by the Precipitation - Frequency Atlas of the United States, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. [40 CFR 412, Minn. R. 7020.2003]

6.4	The Permittee shall operate and maintain the facility in accordance with the application materials, all MPCA approved plans and specifications, and the requirements of this Permit. Approved plans and specifications include any proposed plans and specifications submitted with the current application for permit coverage and any plans and specifications for an existing facility component that have been previously approved by the MPCA. [Minn. R. 7001.0150]
6.5	The Permittee shall operate and maintain any required facility monitoring equipment in accordance with the MPCA approved monitoring plan. [Minn. R. 7001.0150]
6.6	The Permittee is prohibited from discharging, depositing, or otherwise placing any substance into a manure storage area(s) except manure, process wastewater, manure-contaminated runoff, or direct precipitation unless expressly authorized in writing by the MPCA. [Minn. R. 7001.0150]
6.7	The Permittee shall ensure areas around any manure storage area are graded so that surface water drains away from the structures such that pooling of rain or snow melt waters around the immediate vicinity of these structures is prevented. [Minn. R. 7001.0150]
6.8	The Permittee shall manage animal mortalities in accordance with all applicable requirements of the Board of Animal Health (Minn. R. ch. 1721) and the approved emergency response plan. [Minn. R. 7001.0150]
6.9	The Permittee is prohibited from discharging from the animal mortality area to surface or ground waters of the state, or disposing of animal mortalities within any manure storage area. [40 CFR 122.42, Minn. R. 7001.0150]
6.10	When manure is used as compost medium for an animal mortality composting area, the requirements of Minn. R. 7020.2125 for manure stockpiles shall apply. [Minn. R. 7020]
6.11	<p>The Permittee is exempt from ambient air quality standards during agitation and removal of manure from the facility if the Permittee has notified the MPCA in writing prior to commencement of the agitation and removal of manure. The written notification shall be via letter or electronic mail and must include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) The names of the owners or the legal name of the facility;b) The location of the facility by county, township, section, and quarter section;c) The facility's feedlot registration number; andd) The anticipated start date and the anticipated number of days of removal of manure. <p>The maximum cumulative exemption days claimed by the Permittee shall not exceed 21 days per calendar year. [Minn. R. 7020.2002]</p>
6.12	For temporary closure of a facility component, the Permittee shall, within one year of ceasing operation of the component, remove all manure from the component. The Permittee shall maintain permit coverage for the facility, including the temporarily closed component. [Minn. R. 7001.0150]
6.13	The Permittee may establish a short-term manure stockpile at the facility in conjunction with manure pack removal activities from animal holding areas without the need to modify coverage under this Permit, provided the manure is stockpiled for fewer than 10 consecutive days, and no more than 6 times per calendar year. This does not release the Permittee from compliance with the effluent limitations of this Permit. [Minn. R. 7001.0150]
7.1	Additional Requirements for Operation and Maintenance of Liquid Manure Storage Areas (LMSA). [Minn. R. 7020]
7.2	The Permittee shall maintain a fence around the perimeter of any at-grade or near-grade LMSA. [Minn. R. 7001.0150]
7.3	The Permittee shall operate the LMSA to maintain the freeboard of the LMSA as indicated in the approved plans and specifications or Minn. R. 7020.2100, subp. 4, item D, whichever is greater. [Minn. R. 7020.2100]
7.4	For open-air LMSAs the Permittee shall install and maintain a visual marker that clearly indicates the freeboard of the LMSA. For covered LMSAs, including those that are below a barn, the Permittee shall develop and employ a system to measure and monitor the liquid level in the LMSA such that the freeboard of the LMSA is maintained. [40 CFR 412.37]
7.5	The Permittee shall notify the MPCA staff, via telephone or electronic mail, within 24 hours of encroachment into the freeboard of the LMSA. The notification must include the approximate depth of storage space remaining, an estimated timeline for manure or process wastewater removal from the LMSA, and the date when the freeboard encroachment began. Notification under this part does not release the Permittee from the obligation to maintain the freeboard of a LMSA. [Minn. R. 7001.0150]

7.6	For anaerobic digesters, the Permittee shall notify the MPCA via telephone or electronic mail within three business days whenever manure must circumvent the anaerobic digester and be deposited into a LMSA that does not have an impermeable cover. The notification must include the reasons for the interruption of service as well as the start and anticipated end date. This does not release the Permittee from the state ambient air quality standards for hydrogen sulfide. [Minn. R. 7001.0150]
7.7	When a LMSA undergoes temporary closure, the Permittee shall comply with the following: a) Maintain, at a minimum, a two-foot depth of manure and/or water in a LMSA to provide protection from damage caused by freezing temperatures; b) Maintain the LMSA in accordance with the MPCA approved plans and specifications and the requirements of this Permit, including maintenance of the required freeboard; and c) Prior to using any LMSA that has been unused for three years or more, a professional engineer must evaluate and prepare a report on the condition of the liner. The MPCA must review and approve the report prior to using the LMSA. [Minn. R. 7001.0150]
8.1	Required Facility Inspections. [Minn. R. 7020]
8.2	The Permittee shall make the following inspections: a) A daily inspection of all water lines unless an equivalent method for checking water lines is employed such as water meters or pressure gauges; b) A weekly visual inspection of all facility components including animal holding areas, manure storage areas, manure transfer systems, feed storage areas, runoff control measures, and mortality handling areas to assess their conformance to this Permit; and c) Inspection of manure application equipment for leaks prior to use. [40 CFR 412.37, 40 CFR 412.4]
9.1	Additional Required Inspections for Liquid Manure Storage Areas. [Minn. R. 7020]
9.2	The Permittee shall make the following inspections for any LMSA at the facility according to the schedule indicated and after any rainfall event exceeding the 25 year, 24 hour storm event: a) A weekly visual inspection of the LMSA and any devices channeling manure-contaminated runoff to the LMSA to assess conformance to the approved plans and this Permit; b) A weekly visual inspection of the liquid level and freeboard marker in each LMSA to ensure that adequate freeboard is maintained; c) For LMSAs with a perimeter drain tile, a monthly examination of the monitoring port or drain tile outlet for water flow and signs of discoloration or odor in any water flowing in the drain tile; d) For anaerobic digesters, in addition to the inspections for LMSAs above, the Permittee shall conduct a weekly visual inspection of any digester system to assess its performance and to check for system malfunctions. [40 CFR 412.37]
9.3	Any repair to the liner of a LMSA must be approved by the MPCA prior to commencement of the repair and the Permittee shall submit plans and specifications prepared by a design engineer if requested by the MPCA. [Minn. R. 7001.0150]
10.1	Correction of Deficiencies Discovered During Required Inspections. [Minn. R. 7020]
10.2	The Permittee shall correct any deficiencies found as a result of the inspections required by this Permit within 30 days, or within a shorter timeframe when required elsewhere in this Permit, unless one of the following apply: a) Construction is required that cannot be effectively performed during the winter season; b) The activity to correct the deficiency requires a permit modification or permit issuance; c) A piece of equipment/part required to correct the deficiency cannot be manufactured and installed within 30 days; or d) Other reasons beyond the control of the Permittee. [40 CFR 412.37]
10.3	The Permittee shall notify the MPCA within 20 days of discovery of any deficiency if an extended period of time is needed to correct the deficiency. The notice shall include an explanation for the delay and indicate the expected period of time needed to correct the deficiency. This notification does not preclude the MPCA from taking any administrative or legal actions to compel compliance. [Minn. R. 7001.1050]
11.1	Permanent Closure. [Minn. R. 7020]

11.2	Within one year after permanently ceasing operation of a facility component, the Permittee shall remove, from the closed component, all manure and any soils visibly contaminated by manure. [Minn. R. 7020.2025]
11.3	The Permittee shall notify the MPCA via telephone or electronic mail within 3 business days of completion of manure and contaminated soils removal and prior to filling/covering the area previously occupied by the closed component. [Minn. R. 7020.2025]
11.4	<p>The Permittee shall, after removing manure and manure-contaminated soils from the closed component, reduce soil nitrogen by growing alfalfa, grasses, or other perennial forage for at least five years unless:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) the component is, or is within, a building that will not be demolished;b) the liner/floor/base of the component was concrete or asphalt that will not be removed;c) a structure or other impervious surface will be constructed over the area occupied by the component within 60 days; ord) the component was a LMSA. <p>The alfalfa, grasses, or other perennial forage must be established as soon as practicable within the current growing season or at the start of the following growing season when manure removal happens after September 30th. [Minn. R. 7001.0150]</p>
11.5	Within 60 days after completing the requirements for permanent closure of an animal holding area or manure storage area, the Permittee shall provide written notification to the MPCA that the closure requirements have been completed. When closure requires growing alfalfa, grasses, or other perennial forage for at least five years, this notification shall be provided within 60 days of initial establishment of the vegetation. [Minn. R. 7020.2025]
12.1	Recordkeeping Requirements. [Minn. R. 7020]
12.2	Except where specifically noted, the Permittee shall retain all records/reports/submittals required by this Permit for a minimum of six years. This retention period shall be automatically extended during the course of any legal or administrative proceedings or when so requested by the MPCA. Documents shall be maintained at the facility or at the Permittee's business address. The Permittee shall make all documents available for examination and copying upon request of the MPCA or county feedlot officer (CFO) and shall, upon request, submit any documents to the MPCA or CFO within 30 days. [Minn. R. 7001.0150]
12.3	<p>The Permittee shall maintain the following facility maintenance records:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) A description of any modifications, or damage and repair, to the manure collection, containment, and storage components;b) Any significant activities that alter the nature of the facility or that would increase the likelihood of discharge from the facility or potential for groundwater pollution; andc) Any other factors affecting compliance with the requirements of this Permit. [Minn. R. 7001.0150]
12.4	The Permittee shall either maintain records of the dates and amounts for all precipitation events when manure is exposed to precipitation, including 24 hours prior to and following land application events, or direct the MPCA to data maintained by governmental agencies or educational institutions. [40 CFR 412.37]
12.5	The Permittee shall maintain records of the results of any inspections required by this Permit, including any deficiencies found and documentation of any actions taken to correct deficiencies, including the discovery date and the date when corrective measures were completed. For any deficiencies not corrected within 30 days of discovery, the documentation must include an explanation as to why the corrections were not made within the 30-day period. [Minn. R. 7001.0150]
12.6	The Permittee shall retain records of the written requests for exemption from the ambient air quality standards during manure removal. [Minn. R. 7001.0150]
12.7	The Permittee shall retain records of manure application activities, including instances of transferred ownership. The records must be maintained on the MPCA standardized forms " <i>Land Application Records For Feedlots With 300 or More Animal Units (wq-f6-23a)</i> " and " <i>Records When Manure Ownership Is Transferred 300 or More Animal Units (wq-f6-43e)</i> ". [Minn. R. 7020.2225]
12.8	The Permittee shall retain the records pertaining to any required facility monitoring as identified in the MPCA-approved monitoring plan until the Permittee receives written approval from the MPCA to cease the monitoring activities. [Minn. R. 7001.0150]

12.9	The Permittee shall maintain records of any design plans, material testing results, and final certification/reports for any manure storage areas until such time that the structure is permanently closed. [Minn. R. 7001.0150]
13.1	Annual Reporting. [Minn. R. 7020]
13.2	The Permittee shall submit annual report : Due annually, by the 1st of March. The Permittee shall submit the annual report to the MPCA regarding facility activities which occurred in the previous calendar year. The Permittee must use the " <i>Animal Feedlot Or Manure Storage Area Annual Report (wq-f3-22b)</i> " form or use a format determined by the MPCA, such as electronic submission. [40 CFR 122.42]
13.3	The standardized form identifies the information required for the annual report, which at a minimum includes the requirements of 40 CFR 122.42 (e)(4) and land application records. [40 CFR 122.42]
13.4	When one permit coverage is issued to multiple registered feedlots, the Permittee shall submit one annual report form for each registered feedlot. [40 CFR 122.42]
14.1	Effluent Limitations. [Minn. R. 7020]
14.2	The Permittee shall not discharge from the facility, by overflow or other means, manure, manure-contaminated runoff, or process wastewater to a sinkhole, fractured bedrock, well, surface tile intake, mine, quarry, or other natural or constructed channels that convey fluids to groundwater. [Minn. R. 7020.2003]
14.3	The Permittee shall not discharge manure, manure-contaminated runoff, or process wastewater from a land application area, except where the discharge is an agricultural stormwater discharge as defined by this Permit. This requirement does not apply when manure ownership is transferred. [40 CFR 122.23]
14.4	For any facility meeting the definition of New Source, the Permittee shall not discharge manure, manure-contaminated runoff, or process wastewater into surface waters of the State from the production area. [40 CFR 412.46]
14.5	For any facility that does not meet the definition of New Source, the Permittee shall not discharge manure, manure-contaminated runoff, or process wastewater into surface waters of the State from the production area unless the overflow of manure or process wastewater is caused by a precipitation event and the facility is in compliance with the requirements of this part and the operational, design, and recordkeeping requirements of this Permit. [40 CFR 412.31]
15.1	Discharges, Spills, and Overflows. [Minn. R. 7020]
15.2	The Permittee shall immediately report by telephone to the State Duty Officer (800-422-0798) and the MPCA any discharge, spill, or overflow of manure, process wastewater, or manure-contaminated runoff, including those authorized by this Permit. [Minn. Stat. 115.061]
15.3	When a discharge, spill, or overflow occurs, whether authorized by this Permit or not, the Permittee shall take all actions necessary to minimize that discharge, spill, or overflow, to recover the material released, and to mitigate impacts to waters of the state. [Minn. Stat. 115.061]
15.4	Within five days of any discharge, spill, or overflow, the Permittee shall submit a written statement to the MPCA that includes the following information: a) Cause of discharge, spill, or overflow, such as precipitation (inches of rain or snow per day) or other cause (e.g., structural failure, equipment breakdown); b) A description and approximate volume of any discharge, spill, or overflow; c) Location and name, if available, of the vulnerable drinking water supply management area (DWSMA), surface water source DWSMA, waterway, dry ditch, gully, creek, stream, pond, lake, river, or other waters of the state receiving the discharge, spill, or overflow; d) Corrective steps being taken to reduce or eliminate and prevent a recurrence of a non-permitted discharge, spill, or overflow; e) The period of time the discharge, spill, or overflow occurred including exact dates and times or, if still occurring, the anticipated time the discharge, spill, or overflow will continue; and f) Name of person reporting the discharge, spill, or overflow. [Minn. R. 7001.0150]
15.5	The Permittee shall ensure that all discharges, spills, or overflows associated with the facility do not cause or contribute to non-attainment of applicable state water quality standards. [40 CFR 122.44]
16.1	Permit Eligibility. [Minn. R. 7020]

16.2	<p>An owner of a facility is not eligible for coverage under this Permit and must obtain coverage under an individual NPDES permit when any of the following apply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) a schedule of compliance is required to address a pollution hazard;b) special conditions are required as the result of environmental review;c) a new technology for construction or operation which is not addressed by this Permit is proposed;d) removal of bedrock is proposed to comply with site restrictions under Minn. R. 7020.2100;e) feed for animals will be brokered or sold at the facility;f) the facility, including the feed storage area, does not meet the design standards of Minn. R. ch. 7020 and this Permit;g) the MPCA determines that the facility operations would be more appropriately controlled by an individual permit;h) the owner is proposing to land apply manure in a manner that is not consistent with the requirements of this Permit;i) the owner is proposing to use a vegetative infiltration basin (VIB) to control runoff from an open lot or manure storage area; orj) the MPCA determines that discharges from a facility or the land application areas under the Permittee's control have the potential to cause or contribute to non-attainment of applicable water quality standards. [Minn. R. 7001.0210]
17.1	General Conditions. [Minn. R. 7020]
17.2	Compliance with other laws - The agency's issuance of a permit does not release the Permittee from any liability, penalty, or duty imposed by Minnesota or federal statutes or rules or local ordinances, except the obligation to obtain the permit. [Minn. R. 7001.0150]
17.3	Future rules and standards - The agency's issuance of a permit does not prevent the future adoption by the agency of pollution control rules, standards, or orders more stringent than those now in existence and does not prevent the enforcement of these rules, standards, or orders against the Permittee. [Minn. R. 7001.0150]
17.4	Property right - The permit does not convey a property right or an exclusive privilege. [Minn. R. 7001.0150]
17.5	Agency obligation - The agency's issuance of a permit does not obligate the agency to enforce local laws, rules, or plans beyond that authorized by Minnesota statutes. [Minn. R. 7001.0150]
17.6	Permitted actions - The Permittee shall perform the actions or conduct the activity authorized by the permit in accordance with the plans and specifications approved by the agency and in compliance with the conditions of the permit. [Minn. R. 7001.0150]
17.7	System reliability - The Permittee shall at all times properly operate and maintain the facilities and systems of treatment and control and the appurtenances related to them which are installed or used by the Permittee to achieve compliance with the conditions of the permit. Proper operation and maintenance includes effective performance, adequate funding, adequate operator staffing and training, and adequate laboratory and process controls, including appropriate quality assurance procedures. The Permittee shall install and maintain appropriate backup or auxiliary facilities if they are necessary to achieve compliance with the conditions of the permit and, for all permits other than hazardous waste facility permits, if these backup or auxiliary facilities are technically and economically feasible. [Minn. R. 7001.0150]
17.8	False information - The Permittee may not knowingly make a false or misleading statement, representation, or certification in a record, report, plan, or other document required to be submitted to the agency or to the commissioner by the permit. The Permittee shall immediately upon discovery report to the commissioner an error or omission in these records, reports, plans, or other documents. [Minn. R. 7001.0150]
17.9	Submittals - The Permittee shall, when requested by the commissioner, submit within a reasonable time the information and reports that are relevant to the control of pollution regarding the construction, modification, or operation of the facility covered by the permit or regarding the conduct of the activity covered by the permit. [Minn. R. 7001.0150]
17.10	Right of Entry - When authorized by Minnesota Statutes, sections 115.04; 115B.17, subdivision 4; and 116.091, and upon presentation of proper credentials, the agency, or an authorized employee or agent of the agency, shall be allowed by the Permittee to enter at reasonable times upon the property of the Permittee to examine and copy books, papers, records, or memoranda pertaining to the construction, modification, or operation of the facility covered by the permit or pertaining to the activity covered by the permit; and to conduct surveys and investigations, including sampling or monitoring, pertaining to the construction, modification, or operation of the facility covered by the permit or pertaining to the activity covered by the permit. [Minn. R. 7001.0150]

17.11	Steps to minimize non-compliance impacts - If the Permittee discovers, through any means, including notification by the agency, that noncompliance with a condition of the permit has occurred, the Permittee shall take all reasonable steps to minimize the adverse impacts on human health, public drinking water supplies, or the environment resulting from the noncompliance. [Minn. R. 7001.0150]
17.12	Non-compliance notification - If the Permittee discovers that noncompliance with a condition of the permit has occurred which could endanger human health, public drinking water supplies, or the environment, the Permittee shall, within 24 hours of the discovery of the noncompliance, orally notify the commissioner. Within five days of the discovery of the noncompliance, the Permittee shall submit to the commissioner a written description of the noncompliance; the cause of the noncompliance; the exact dates of the period of the noncompliance; if the noncompliance has not been corrected, the anticipated time it is expected to continue; and steps taken or planned to reduce, eliminate, and prevent reoccurrence of the noncompliance. [Minn. R. 7001.0150]
17.13	Non-compliance report - The Permittee shall report noncompliance with the permit not reported as a part of the next report which the Permittee is required to submit under this Permit. If no reports are required within 30 days of the discovery of the noncompliance, the Permittee shall submit the report within 30 days of the discovery of the noncompliance. [Minn. R. 7001.0150]
17.14	Advance notice of potential non-compliance - The Permittee shall give advance notice to the commissioner as soon as possible of planned physical alterations or additions to the permitted facility or activity that may result in noncompliance with a Minnesota or federal pollution control statute or rule or a condition of the permit. [Minn. R. 7001.0150]
17.15	Permit transfer - The permit is not transferable to any person without the express written approval of the agency after compliance with the requirements of Part 7001.0190. A person to whom the permit has been transferred shall comply with the conditions of the permit. [Minn. R. 7001.0150]
17.16	Liability - The permit authorizes the Permittee to perform the activities described in the permit under the conditions of the permit. In issuing the permit, the state and agency assume no responsibility for damage to persons, property, or the environment caused by the activities of the Permittee in the conduct of its actions, including those activities authorized, directed, or undertaken under the permit. To the extent the state and agency may be liable for the activities of its employees, that liability is explicitly limited to that provided in the Tort Claims Act, Minnesota Statutes, section 3.736. [Minn. R. 7001.0150]
17.17	Duty to Prevent and Mitigate - The Permittee shall notify the agency immediately of the discharge, accidental or otherwise, of any substance or material under its control which, if not recovered, may cause pollution of waters of the state, and the responsible person shall recover as rapidly and as thoroughly as possible such substance or material and take immediately such other action as may be reasonably possible to minimize or abate pollution of waters of the state caused thereby. [Minn. Stat. 115.061]
17.18	Need to Halt or Reduce Activity Not a Defense - It shall not be a defense for a Permittee in an enforcement action that it would have been necessary to halt or reduce the permitted activity in order to maintain compliance with the conditions of this Permit. [40 CFR 122.41]
17.19	Civil and Criminal Liability - Nothing in this Permit shall be construed to relieve the Permittee from civil or criminal penalties for noncompliance with the terms and conditions provided herein. [Minn. R. 7001]
17.20	Severability - The provisions of this Permit are severable, and if any provision of this Permit or the application of any provision of this Permit to any circumstance is held invalid, the application of such provision to other circumstances, and the remainder of this Permit shall not be affected thereby. [Minn. R. 7001]
17.21	Discharge Monitoring Reports - This Permit requires the submittal of annual reports in lieu of discharge monitoring reports as the Permittee is not authorized to discharge to surface waters except as provided in Minn. R. 7020.2003, subp. 2, which references 40 CFR pt. 412. [40 CFR 412]
17.22	Availability of Reports - Except for data determined to be confidential under Minn. Stat. 116.075, subd. 2, all reports prepared in accordance with the terms of this Permit shall be available for public inspection at the offices of the MPCA. Procedures for submitting such confidential material shall be pursuant to Minn. R. 7000. Monitoring data shall not be considered confidential. Knowingly making any false statement on any such report may result in the imposition of criminal penalties as provided for in Minn. Stat. 115.071, subd. 2. [Minn. R. 7000.1200]
18.1	Definitions. [Minn. R. 7020]
18.2	"Agency" means the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, as constituted pursuant to Minn. Stat. 116.02. [Minn. R. 7020.0300]

18.3	"Agricultural Stormwater" means a precipitation-related discharge of manure, litter or process wastewater from land areas under the control of a CAFO where the manure, litter or process wastewater has been applied in accordance with site specific nutrient management practices that ensure appropriate agricultural utilization of the nutrients in the manure, litter or process wastewater, as specified in 40 CFR 122.42(e)(1)(vi)-(ix). [40 CFR 122.23]
18.4	"Anaerobic Digester" means a liquid manure storage area that is constructed with the intent to capture and combust gas emissions resulting from the digestion of waste by microbes in anaerobic conditions. An anaerobic digester is a LMSA and is required to comply with all requirements applicable to LMSAs. Requirements specific to anaerobic digesters will be noted when applicable. [Minn. R. 7020]
18.5	"Animal Feeding Operation" ("AFO") means a lot or facility (other than an aquatic animal production facility) where animals have been, are, or will be stabled or confined and fed or maintained for a total of 45 days or more in any 12-month period, and crops, vegetation, forage growth, or post-harvest residues are not sustained in the normal growing season over any portion of the lot or facility. [40 CFR 122.23]
18.6	"Animal Feedlot" means a lot or building or combination of lots and buildings intended for the confined feeding, breeding, raising, or holding of animals and specifically designed as a confinement area in which manure may accumulate or where the concentration of animals is such that a vegetative cover cannot be maintained within the enclosures. For the purposes of this Permit, open lots used for the feeding and rearing of poultry (poultry ranges) shall be considered to be animal feedlots. Pastures shall not be considered animal feedlots under this Permit. [Minn. R. 7020.0300]
18.7	"Animal Manure" or "Manure" means poultry, livestock, or other animal excreta or a mixture of excreta with feed, bedding, precipitation, or other materials. [Minn. R. 7020.0300]
18.8	"Application Materials or Permit Application" means all information submitted by the applicant for coverage under this permit and relied upon by the MPCA to make a decision on the request for permit coverage. This includes but is not limited to the application form, manure management plan, plans and specifications for facility components, emergency response plan, and required monitoring plans as approved by the MPCA. [Minn. R. 7001]
18.9	"Approved Plans or MPCA Approved" means any previously approved plans/documents or new/ revised plans/documents required by this Permit that receive approval from the MPCA. [Minn. R. 7001]
18.10	"Best Management Practices" ("BMPs") means schedules of activities, prohibitions of practices, maintenance procedures, and other management practices to prevent or reduce the pollution of waters of the state. BMPs also include treatment requirements, operating procedures, and practices to control site runoff, spillage or leaks, sludge or waste disposal, or drainage from raw material storage. [Minn. R. 7001]
18.11	"Closure" refers to the cessation of use of all or any part of the facility, including: a) The removal of livestock or poultry from all or any of the animal holding areas located within the production area; and b) The discontinuation of a structure or area located within the production area to handle, store, or treat manure. [Minn. R. 7020]
18.12	"Coarse-textured Soils" means fields that have at least 33 percent of the surface soil and/or subsoil (within three (3) feet of the surface) with one of the following soil texture types: sand, loamy sand, loamy coarse sand, fine sand, loamy fine sand, coarse sand, or very fine sand. [Minn. R. 7001]
18.13	"Commencement of Construction" means to begin or cause to begin, as part of a continuous program, the placement, assembly, or installation of facilities or equipment; or to conduct significant site preparation work, including clearing excavation or removal of existing buildings, structures, or facilities, necessary for the placement, assembly, or installation of facilities; or equipment at a new or expanded animal feedlot or a new, modified, or expanded manure storage area. [Minn. R. 7020.0300]
18.14	"Commissioner" means the Commissioner, or other MPCA staff authorized by the Commissioner, of the MPCA, as described in Minn. Stat. 116.03, as amended. [Minn. R. 7020.0300]
18.15	"Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation" ("CAFO") means an AFO that is defined as a Large CAFO or as a Medium CAFO by the terms of 40 CFR 122.23(b)(2), or that is designated as a CAFO in accordance with 40 CFR 122.23(c). [Minn. R. 7020.0300]
18.16	"Corrective or Protective Measure" means a practice, structure, condition, or combination thereof that prevents or reduces the discharge of pollutants from an animal feedlot or manure storage area to a level in conformity with MPCA rules. [Minn. R. 7020.0300]

18.17	"Design Engineer or Professional Engineer" means an engineer licensed in the state of Minnesota or a NRCS staff person having NRCS approval authority for the project. [Minn. R. 7020.0300]
18.18	"Discharge" means the addition of a pollutant to waters of the state, including a release of animal manure or process wastewater from an animal holding area, manure storage area, or a manure land application site by leaking, pumping, pouring, emitting, emptying, dumping, escaping, seeping, leaching, or any other means. Discharge includes both point source and nonpoint source discharges. [Minn. R. 7020.0300]
18.19	"Emergency Manure Application" Emergency manure application means instances of land application of manure that are the direct result of situations beyond the control of the Permittee, such as unusual weather conditions, unavoidable equipment failure, or other circumstances that could not have been avoided with proper planning and management and there is no opportunity to provide temporary storage within another approved manure storage area at the facility. In these situations, only the application of the volume of manure that is necessary to prevent manure storage overflow is considered to be emergency manure application. [Minn. R. 7001]
18.20	"Facility" means an animal feedlot, a manure storage area, or an animal feedlot with a manure storage area that is subject to this Permit. [Minn. R. 7020.0300]
18.21	"Feed Storage Area" means a designated area at the production facility, paved or unpaved, covered or uncovered, that is utilized for storage of any materials used to create the rations for livestock. Also included are those areas used to store spoiled, spilled, or other unused rations for livestock. For purposes of this Permit, "feed storage area" does not include buildings or roofed structures that contain dry commodities, provided that precipitation does not come into contact with the commodities stored inside the structure. "Feed storage area" does not include areas used for the storage of hay bales and other absorbent materials which do not create contaminated leachate and do not create a pollution hazard. [Minn. R. 7001]
18.22	"Feed Storage Area Runoff" means liquid that leaves the feed storage area that is the result of precipitation on the feedstocks or on the surrounding feed storage area where residual feed is present. This does not include water that flows off of the tarp/roof of a feed storage, unless that liquid is allowed to come into contact with feedstocks, residual feed, or other liquid that has come into contact with feedstocks or residual feed. This liquid is not stormwater and should not be allowed to directly enter waters of the state, tile intakes, or stormwater collection/mitigation area (stormwater ponds, etc.). [Minn. R. 7001]
18.23	"Incorporate or Incorporation" means applying manure using injection, disking into the soil, tilling the soil after application, or using other practices that result in a majority of the manure being placed below the ground surface within 24 hours of application and prior to rainfall. [Minn. R. 7001]
18.24	"Intermittent Stream" means all watercourses identified as intermittent streams on United States Geological Survey quadrangle maps. [Minn. R. 7020.0300]
18.25	"Land Application Area" means land under the control of an AFO owner or operator, whether it is owned, rented, or leased, to which manure, litter, or process wastewater from the production area is or may be applied. [Minn. R. 7001]
18.26	"Liquid Manure" means manure that does not meet the definition of solid manure. Process wastewater and manure-contaminated runoff are considered to be liquid manure. [Minn. R. 7020.0300]
18.27	"Liquid Manure Storage Area" ("LMSA") means an area where liquid animal manure and process wastewaters are stored or processed. [Minn. R. 7020.0300]
18.28	"Manure-contaminated Runoff" means a liquid that has come into contact with animal manure and drains over land from any animal feedlot, manure storage area, or animal manure land application site. [Minn. R. 7020.0300]
18.29	"Manure Storage Area" means an area where animal manure or process generated wastewater are stored or processed. Short-term and permanent stockpile sites and composting sites are manure storage areas. Animal manure packs or mounding are not manure storage areas provided they are managed in accordance with Minn. R. 7020.2000, subp. 3. [Minn. R. 7020.0300]
18.30	"MPCA" means the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency or Minnesota Pollution Control Agency staff as delegated by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. [Minn. R. 7001]

18.31	<p>"Modification" means a change to a facility component or operational practice described, required, or authorized by this Permit, including an expansion. Major and minor modifications are described by Minn. R. 7020.0300 and Minn. R. 7001.0190. A change to a facility component or operational practice that is not described, required, or authorized by a permit is not a modification, including changes to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) the type of crop or manure application rate if consistent with the methodology portion of the manure management plan and reflected in required records;b) routine maintenance;c) feeding or milking schedules;d) animal diets;e) bedding materials so long as consistent with approved plans and specifications;f) equipment used to clean the facility so long as consistent with approved design plans and specifications;g) lands used as pasture; orh) facility components not involved directly in animal or manure management such as an office or machine shed. [Minn. R. 7020.0300]
18.32	<p>"MES" means the University of Minnesota Extension System. [Minn. R. 7001]</p>
18.33	<p>"National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit" or "NPDES" means a permit issued by the MPCA as required by federal law for the purpose of regulating the discharge of pollutants from point sources into waters of the United States from concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs) as defined by federal law. [Minn. R. 7020.0300]</p>
18.34	<p>"New Source" means a swine, poultry, or veal calf facility that began construction after December 4, 2008, and is subject to a new source performance standard in 40 CFR pt. 412 prohibiting discharges from the production area. [40 CFR 122.2]</p>
18.35	<p>"NRCS" means the Natural Resources Conservation Service. [Minn. R. 7001]</p>
18.36	<p>"Overflow" means the release of manure or process wastewater resulting from the filling of wastewater or manure storage structures beyond the point where manure, process wastewater, or stormwater can be contained by the structure. [Minn. R. 7001]</p>
18.37	<p>"Owner" or "Owners" shall mean all persons having possession, control, or title to an animal feedlot or manure storage area as defined by Minn. R. 7020.0300, subp. 17. [Minn. R. 7020.0300]</p>
18.38	<p>"Permanent Closure" means ceasing operation of all or any part of the facility with the intent that the animal holding area(s) and/or manure storage area(s) will no longer be used for that purpose. [Minn. R. 7020]</p>
18.39	<p>"Permanent Manure Stockpile" means a solid manure storage area where manure is stored or processed that does not meet the requirements of Minn. R. 7020.2125, subp. 2, for short-term stockpiles. [Minn. R. 7020.0300]</p>
18.40	<p>"Permittee" means the owner or owners or any person or group of persons including, but not limited to, a single individual, manager, partnership, limited partnership, cooperative, or any form of corporate entity that has possession or control or title to the feedlot granted coverage under this Permit in accordance with the MPCA-approved application materials. [Minn. R. 7001]</p>
18.41	<p>"Probability of Rainfall" means National Weather Service statistical predictions (may be found at the website: http://www.weather.gov/mdl/synop/products.php). [Minn. R. 7001]</p>
18.42	<p>"Process Wastewater" means waters and/or precipitation, including rain or snow, which comes into contact with manure, litter, bedding, or other raw material or intermediate or final material or product used in or resulting from the production of animals, poultry, or direct products such as milk or eggs. [Minn. R. 7020.0300]</p>
18.43	<p>"Production Area" means that part of the animal feeding operation that includes the animal confinement area, the manure storage area, the raw materials storage area, and the waste containment areas. The animal confinement area includes, but is not limited to, open lots, housed lots, feedlots, confinement houses, stall barns, free stall barns, calf huts/hutches, milkrooms, milking centers, egg washing or egg processing areas, areas used for the storage and disposal/treatment of mortalities, cowyards, barnyards, medication pens, walkers, animal walkways, and stables. The manure storage area includes, but is not limited to, lagoons, runoff ponds, storage sheds, stockpiles, under-house or pit storages, liquid impoundments, static piles, and composting piles. The raw materials storage area includes, but is not limited to, feed silos, and silage bunkers. The waste containment area includes, but is not limited to, settling basins and areas within berms and diversions which separate uncontaminated stormwater. [40 CFR 412.2]</p>
18.44	<p>"Short-term Manure Stockpile" means a manure storage area where manure is stored or processed according to Minn. R. 7020.2125, subp. 1 to 3. [Minn. R. 7020.0300]</p>

18.45	"Sinkhole" means a surface depression caused by a collapse of soil or overlying formation above fractured or cavernous bedrock. [Minn. R. 7020.0300]
18.46	"Soil Temperature" means a thermometer reading at a depth of six inches or as indicated by the closest soil temperature monitoring location available on the MDA soil temperature network available at https://app.gisdata.mn.gov/mda-soiltemp/ . [Minn. R. 7001]
18.47	"Solid Manure" means manure that has 15 percent or more solids, can be stacked at a 3:1 vertical to horizontal ratio, and is handled as a solid product. [Minn. R. 7020]
18.48	"Spill" means the release of manure, manure contaminated runoff, or process wastewater from the confines of an animal feedlot, manure storage area, manure transfer system, or other component used to collect, transfer, or store manure, manure-contaminated runoff, or process wastewater that if not recovered would pollute waters of the state. Spill includes releases from activities associated with land application that do not comply with this Permit. [Minn. R. 7001]
18.49	"Special Protection Area" means land that is within 300 feet of all protected waters (lakes and streams) and protected wetlands, identified on Department of Natural Resources (DNR) protected waters and wetlands maps and intermittent streams and ditches identified on United States Geological Survey (USGS) quadrangle maps, excluding drainage ditches with berms and segments of intermittent streams which are grassed waterways. [Minn. R. 7020.0300]
18.50	"Temporary Closure" means ceasing operation of all or part of a facility with the intent of reusing the facility or portion of the facility at a future date. [Minn. R. 7020]
18.51	"Waters of the State" means all streams, lakes, ponds, marshes, watercourses, waterways, wells, springs, reservoirs, aquifers, irrigation systems, drainage systems, and all other bodies or accumulations of water, surface or underground, natural or artificial, public or private, that are contained within, flow through, or border upon the state or any portions of the state. [Minn. R. 7020.0300]
18.52	"Waters of the United States" has the meaning given under 40 CFR 122.2. [Minn. R. 7020.0300]
18.53	"Winter Manure Application" or "Winter Application" means application of manure to frozen or snow-covered soils, except application during the months of October and November or when the manure is immediately incorporated or injected below the soil surface. [Minn. R. 7001]