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## **River Bend Sow Complex** **Draft Permit to Operate Renewal**

### ***General overview of the farm***

The existing facility known as “River Bend Sow Complex” is located in Paulding County, Washington Township, at 23378 State Route 60, Oakwood, Ohio in the Auglaize River watershed. The facility is owned and operated by Cooper Farms, Inc. and has a permitted design capacity of 3,500 swine weighing more than 55 pounds housed in three barns. The liquid manure from the barns is stored in an anaerobic treatment lagoon. In addition there is a covered mortality composting building to store the solid compost material. The facility has about a year’s worth of liquid manure storage in the lagoon and more than a year’s worth of storage for composted mortality material.

### ***Overview of Draft Permit to Operate***

Within the draft Permit to Operate (PTO) renewal, a complete manure management plan is provided which outlines inspections and monitoring that must be completed by the facility. At the maximum design capacity, the facility would generate an estimated 5,993,000 gallons of liquid manure wastewater and about 36 tons of composted mortality material annually. The facility would control the irrigation of the liquid manure wastewater on 128 acres of crop land. The mortality compost material would be distributed to and utilized by other nearby crop farmers to recycle the nutrients as a replacement for commercial synthetic fertilizers.

An Insect and Rodent Control Plan is included to minimize the presence and negative effects of insects and rodents.

A Mortality Management Plan is required for proper disposal of dead livestock. Approved methods of disposal are burying, landfilling, burning, rendering and composting. “River Bend Sow Complex” plans to continue utilizing on-site mortality composting as the primary method to manage mortality losses.

An Emergency Response Plan is required to ensure accidents or emergencies are handled quickly and efficiently to maintain the safety of the environment, wildlife and water supplies.

Finally, an Operating Record is included that provides all forms and information that must be maintained by the facility to show compliance with ODA’s rules and the permit. These records include inspection of the manure storage structures, manure characterization, insect and rodent control, distribution and utilization of manure, and mortality management. The facility and these records are inspected by the Ohio Department of Agriculture to ensure compliance. –End-

