Alternative EAW Form for Animal Feedlots

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT WORKSHEET

Note to preparers: An electronic version of this form is available at www.mnplan.state.mn.us. This form is authorized for use only for the preparation of EAWs for animal feedlots. Project proposers should consult the *Guidelines for Alternative EAW Form for Animal Feedlots* (also available at the web site or by calling 651-296-8253) regarding how to supply information needed by the RGU to complete the worksheet form.

Note to reviewers: Comments must be submitted to the RGU during the 30-day comment period following notice of the EAW in the *EQB Monitor*. Comments should address the accuracy and completeness of information, potential impacts that warrant further investigation and the need for an EIS.

---

1. Basic Project Information

A. Feedlot Name

B. Feedlot Proposer
Technical contact person _____
Title _____
Address _____
City, state, ZIP _____
Phone _____
Fax _____
E-mail _____

C. RGU
Contact person _____
Title _____
Address _____
City, state, ZIP _____
Phone _____
Fax _____
E-mail _____

D. Reason for EAW preparation (check one)
_____ Mandatory EAW _____ Citizen petition _____ RGU discretion _____ Proposer volunteered _____ EIS scoping

E. Feedlot location County _____ City/Township _____

_____¼ _____ ¼ Section _____ Twp _____ Range _____

Watershed (name and 4-digit code) _____

F. Attach each of the following to the EAW:
- ■ County map showing the general location of the project
- ■ U.S. Geological Survey 7.5 minute, 1:24,000 scale map indicating project boundaries (photocopy acceptable)
- ■ Site plan showing all significant project and natural features
- ■ Map of manure application sites
- ■ Map of permanent manure stockpiles
- ■ Map showing all wells, tile inlets, karst features, residences and sensitive receptors within a one-mile radius of the feedlot or on manure land application sites (use responses to parts 2 through 4 of this form in making the map)
- ■ Feedlot Permit Application (county or state)

G. Project summary of 50 words or less to be published in the *EQB Monitor.*

H. Please check all boxes that apply and fill in requested data:

Animal type	Number proposed	Type of confinement
❑ Finishing hogs	_____	_____
❑ Sows	_____	_____
❑ Nursery pigs	_____	_____
❑ Dairy cows	_____	_____
❑ Beef cattle	_____	_____
❑ Turkeys	_____	_____
❑ Layer hens	_____	_____
❑ Chickens	_____	_____
❑ Pullets	_____	_____
❑ Other *(identify species)*	_____	_____

I. Project magnitude data

Total acreage of farm _____

Number of animal units in this project _____

Total animal unit capacity at this location after project construction _____

Acreage required for manure application _____

J. Describe construction methods and timing

K. Past and future stages

Is this project an expansion or addition to an existing feedlot? ___Yes ___ No

Are future expansions of this feedlot planned or likely? ___Yes ___ No

If either question is answered "Yes," briefly describe the existing feedlot (species, number of animals and animal units, and type of operation) and any past environmental review or the anticipated expansion.

2. Land uses and noteworthy resources in proximity to the site

A. Adjacent land uses. Describe the uses of adjacent lands and give the distances and directions to nearby residences, schools, day care facilities, senior citizen housing, places of worship and other places accessible to the public (including roads) within one mile of the feedlot and within or adjacent to the boundaries of the manure application sites.

B. Compatibility with plans and land use regulations. Is the project subject to any of the following adopted plans or ordinances? Check all that apply:

- ❑ local comprehensive plan
- ❑ land use plan or ordinance
- ❑ shoreland zoning ordinance
- ❑ flood plain ordinance
- ❑ wild or scenic river land use district ordinance
- ❑ local wellhead protection plan

Is anything about the proposed feedlot <u>not</u> consistent with any provision of any ordinance or plan checked? ___Yes ___ No

If "Yes," describe the inconsistency and how it will be resolved.

Are there any lands in proximity to the feedlot that are officially planned for or zoned for future uses that might be incompatible with a feedlot (such as residential development)? ___Yes ___ No If "Yes," describe the potentially affected use and its location to the feedlot, its anticipated development schedule and any plans to avoid or minimize potential conflicts with the feedlot.

C. Nearby resources. Are any of the following resources on or in proximity to the feedlot, manure storage areas, or within or adjacent to the boundaries of the manure application sites?

- Drinking Water Supply Management Areas designated by the Minnesota Department of Health? ___Yes ___ No
- Public water supply wells (within two miles)? ___Yes ___ No
- Archaeological, historical or architectural resources? ___Yes ___ No
- Designated public parks, recreation areas or trails? ___Yes ___ No
- Lakes or wildlife management areas? ___Yes ___ No
- State-listed (endangered, threatened or special concern) species, rare plant communities or other sensitive ecological resources such as native prairie habitat, colonial waterbird nesting colonies or regionally rare plant communities? ___Yes ___ No
- Scenic views and vistas? ___Yes ___ No
- Other unique resources? ___Yes ___ No

If "Yes," describe the resource and identify any project-related impacts on the resource. Describe any measures to minimize or avoide adverse impacts.

3. Geologic and soil conditions

	Feedlot	Manure Storage Area	Manure Application Sites
A. Approximate depth (in feet) to:			
Ground water (minimum)	_____	_____	_____
(average)	_____	_____	_____
Bedrock (minimum)	_____	_____	_____
(average)	_____	_____	_____

	Feedlot	Manure Storage Area	Manure Application Sites
B. NRCS soil classifications *(if known)*	_____	_____	_____

C. Indicate with "yes" or "no" whether any of the following geologic site hazards to ground water are present at the feedlot, manure storage area or manure application sites.

	Feedlot	Manure Storage Area	Manure Application Sites
Karst features (sinkhole, cave, resurgent spring, disappearing spring, karst window, blind valley or dry valley)	_____	_____	_____
Exposed bedrock	_____	_____	_____
Soils developed in bedrock (as shown on soils maps)	_____	_____	_____

For items answered "yes" (in C), describe the features, show them on a map and discuss proposed design and mitigation measures to avoid or minimize potential impacts.

4. Water use, tiling and drainage, and physical alterations

A. Will the project involve installation or abandonment of any water wells, appropriation of any ground or surface water (including dewatering), or connection to any public water supply? ___Yes ___ No
If "Yes," as applicable, give location and purpose of any new wells; the source, duration, quantity and purpose of any appropriations or public supply connections; and unique well numbers and DNR appropriation permit numbers, if available. Identify any existing and new wells on the site map. If there are no wells known on-site, explain methodology used to determine that none are present.

B. Will the project involve installation of drain tiling, tile inlets or outlets? ___Yes ___ No If "Yes," describe.

C. Will the project involve the physical or hydrologic alteration — dredging, filling, stream diversion, outfall structure, diking and impoundment — of any surface waters such as a lake, pond, wetland, stream or drainage ditch? ___Yes ___ No
If "Yes," identify water resource affected and give the DNR Protected Waters Inventory number(s) if the water resources affected are on the PWI. Describe proposed mitigation measures to avoid or minimize impacts.

5. Manure management

A. Check the box(es) below that best describe the manure management system proposed for this feedlot.

- ❑ Stockpiling for land application
- ❑ Containment storage under barns for land application barns
- ❑ Containment storage outside of barns for land application
- ❑ Dry litter pack on barn floors for eventual land application
- ❑ Composting system
- ❑ Treatment of manure to remove solids and/or to recover energy
- ❑ Other; describe _____

B. Manure collection, handling and storage
Quantities of manure generated: total _____ by species 1 _____ by species 2 _____
Frequency and duration of manure removal: number of days per cycle _____; total days per year _____
Give a brief description of how manures will be collected, handled (including methods of removal), and stored at this feedlot.

C. Manure utilization
Physical state of manure to be applied: ____ liquid ____ solid ____ other, describe: _____

D. Manure application

1. Describe application technology, technique, frequency, time of year and locations.

2. Describe the agronomic rates of application (per acre) to be used and whether the rates are based on nitrogen or phosphorus. Will there be a nutrient management plan? ___Yes ___ No

3. Discuss the capacity of the sites to handle the volume and composition of manure. Identify any improvements necessary.

4. Describe any required setbacks for land application systems.

E. Other methods of manure utilization. If the project will utilize manure other than by land application, describe the methods.

6. Air/odor emissions

A. Identify the major sources of air or odor emissions from this feedlot.

B. Describe any proposed **feedlot design features** or **air or odor emission mitigation measures** to be implemented to avoid or minimize potential adverse impacts and discuss their anticipated effectiveness.

C. *Answer this item only if no feedlot design features or mitigations were proposed in item 6.B.* Provide a summary of the results or an air emissions modeling study designed to compare predicted emissions at the property boundaries with state standards, health risk values or odor threshold concentrations. The modeling must incorporate an appropriate background concentration for hydrogen sulfide to account for potential cumulative air quality impacts.

D. Describe any plans to notify neighbors of operational events (such as manure storage agitation and pumpout) that may result in higher-than-usual levels or air or odor emissions.

E. Noise and dust. Describe sources, characteristics, duration, quantities or intensity and any proposed measures to mitigate adverse impacts.

7. Dead animal disposal

Describe the quantities of dead animals anticipated, the method for storing and disposing of carcasses, and frequency of disposal.

8. Surface water runoff

Compare the quantity and quality of site runoff before and after the project. Describe permanent controls to manage or treat runoff.

9. Traffic and public infrastructure impacts

A. Estimate the number of heavy truck trips generated per week and describe their routing over local roads. Describe any road improvements to be made.

B. Will new or expanded utilities, roads, other infrastructure or public services be required to serve the project? ___Yes ___ No
If "Yes," describe.

10. Permits and approvals required.

Check required permits and give status of application:

Unit of government	Type of application	Status
❑ MPCA	NPDES permit	
❑ MPCA	Minnesota feedlot permit	
❑ MPCA	NPDES construction stormwater permit	
❑ MPCA	Notification/status change for underground storage tanks	
❑ County	Minnesota feedlot permit	
❑ County/twp/city	Conditional use or other land use permit	
❑ MN DNR	Water appropriation	

❑ Other (list any other approvals required noting the unit of government, type of approval needed and status of approval process)

11. Other potential environmental impacts, including cumulative impacts

If the project may cause any adverse environmental impacts not addressed by items 1-10, identify and discuss them here, noting any proposed mitigation. This includes any cumulative impacts caused by the project in combination with other existing, proposed and reasonably foreseeable future projects that may interact with the project described in this EAW in such a way as to cause cumulative impacts. Examples of cumulative impacts to consider include air quality, stormwater volume or quality and surface water quality. *(Cumulative impacts may be discussed here or under the appropriate item(s) elsewhere on this form.)*

12. Summary of issues

List any impacts and issues identified above that may require further investigation before the project is begun. Discuss any alternatives or mitigative measures that have been or may be considered for these impacts and issues, including those that have been or may be ordered as permit conditions.

RGU CERTIFICATION. The Environmental Quality Board will only accept **SIGNED** Environmental Assessment Worksheets for public notice in the *EQB Monitor*.

I hereby certify that:

- The information contained in this document is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge.
- The EAW describes the complete project; there are no other projects, stages or components other than those described in this document, which are related to the project as phased actions, as defined at Minnesota Rules, part 4410.0200, subpart 60; part 4410.1000, subpart 4; and part 4410.4300, subpart 1.
- Copies of this EAW are being sent to the entire EQB distribution list.

Signature _____ Date _____

Title _____

This alternative Environmental Assessment Worksheet form has been approved by the Chair of the Environmental Quality Board pursuant to Minnesota Rules, part 4410.1300 for use for animal feedlot projects. The form is available at Minnesota Planning's website: www.mnplan.state.mn.us. For additional information, contact: Environmental Quality Board, Room 300, 658 Cedar St., St. Paul, MN 55155; telephone: 651-296-8253 or voice mail: 800-657-3794. For TTY, call 800-627-3529 and ask for Minnesota Planning. This form can be made available in an alternative format, such as audiotape.