

Decision Summary RA19043A

This document summarizes my reasons for issuing Authorization RA19043A, an amended version of Authorization RA19043. This amended authorization is issued under section 23 of the *Agricultural Operation Practices Act* (AOPA). My decision is based on the act and its regulations, the policies of the NRCB and all other materials in the application file.

Authorization RA19043A and its associated documents are available from the decisions search engine on the Natural Resources Conservation Board (NRCB) website at www.nrcb.ca.

1. Background and reasons for the amendment

Westcoast Holsteins Ltd. (Westcoast Holsteins) owns and operates a milking cow dairy confined feeding operation (CFO) on the NW 35-42-25 W4M in Ponoka County, roughly two miles east of the Town of Ponoka.

Previous to Authorization RA19043, the NRCB issued the CFO Approval RA05006 and Authorizations RA10058, RA10058A and RA19028 on April 14, 2005, October 15, 2010, November 8, 2010, and September 26, 2019, respectively.

The NRCB issued Westcoast Holsteins Authorization RA19043 on December 11, 2019. The authorization allowed for the construction of a new calf barn (referred to as calf barn six, 40 m x 12.2 m) on or before November 30, 2020. It also permitted the use of an already constructed veal calf barn (9.1 m x 11 m).

Calf barn six has not been constructed to date. Further, an agent of Westcoast Holsteins indicated that the CFO no longer intends to construct calf barn six.

Based on the above, I am amending Authorization RA19043 on my own motion under section 23 of AOPA to remove the non-constructed calf barn. This amendment does not affect any of the previously mentioned NRCB issued permits.

2. Other factors considered

The application for Authorization RA19043 was consistent with the land use provisions of Ponoka County's municipal development plan (MDP). This approval officer amendment does not impact the MDP consistency determination in Decision Summary RA19043. The MDP consistency determination in Decision Summary RA19043 applies equally to this amendment. (See Part 5 and Appendix A of Decision Summary RA19043 for a more detailed discussion of the county's municipal development plan.)

3. Terms and conditions

For clarity and efficiency, and in accordance with NRCB policy, I have deleted the conditions relevant to the non-constructed calf barn, and consolidated the other terms, from Authorization RA19043 into the new Authorization RA190343A. Consolidating permits generally involves carrying forward all non-redundant terms and conditions from the prior permit into the new permit, and then cancelling the prior permit.

Therefore, Authorization RA19043A contains all of the relevant terms from Authorization RA19043, except for the construction conditions related to calf barn six which will be deleted.

4. Conclusion

Authorization RA19043A is issued for the reasons provided above.

Authorization RA19043 is therefore cancelled, unless Authorization RA19043A is held invalid following a review and decision by the NRCB's board members or by a court, in which case Authorization RA19043 will remain in effect.

March 10, 2021

(Original Signed)
Jeff Froese
Approval Officer