Dear FSA Representative:

I am submitting this public comment in response to the proposed hog CAFO to be located at CR 700 East & CR 800 South, Peru, Indiana. The Farm Service Agency should not allow this project to move forward because it threatens the health of nearby residents, will harm property values, and could compromise critical water resources and the surrounding environment.

This proposed CAFO is problematic because it is in close proximity to a number of important county natural resources which include: a county hiking trail, a biking and pedestrian destination, the Mississinewa Reservoir, the Mississinewa Lake, the Miami State Recreation Area, and the Red Bridge State Recreation Area.¹

In fact, the proposed CAFO will be less than 4 miles from the Mississinewa Reservoir and associated recreation area; an area that has a large public draw for its natural beauty. The odors and potential water contamination will drive away visitors and compromise a critical water resource for the county and the community. It is well known when phosphorus from CAFO runoff enters a water body in high enough concentrations, it can cause eutrophication and toxic algae blooms, which kill fish and other aquatic life and can be harmful to human health.

Another water body potentially at risk is the Teays, a vast glacial river that flows underneath Miami County and near the proposed site. The proposed CAFO plans to store its waste in two below-building pits that could contaminate this ancient source of groundwater.

¹ see Natural Resources Map on page 106 of the Miami County Comprehensive Plan https://www.miamicountyin.gov/DocumentCenter/View/1517/6915-FINAL-DRAFT?bidId=
Lastly, the property owner of the proposed site is a known bad actor. The operator of Snowhill Ridge LLC, Brian Troyer, received a Notice of Violation from the Indiana Department of Environmental Management in 2015 for faulty waste management practices and insufficient soil sampling at another CAFO he owns. Allowing Mr. Troyer to operate a huge industrial farming operation in this delicate and environmentally important area is too big a risk. Please do not sign off on this action.

Sincerely,
Margo Tucker
Assistant Director of the Downstream Project
Citizens Action Coalition Education Fund
1915 W. 18th Street, Suite C
Indianapolis, IN 46202
VIA CERTIFIED MAIL  91-7190-0005-2710-0045-4706

Mr. Brian L. Troyer
Troyer Farms
6088 East County Road 550 South
Peru, IN 46970

Re:  Letter of Violation
Troyer Farms
Log # 3583
Peru, Miami County

Dear Mr. Troyer:

On November 5, 2015, a representative of the Indiana Department of Environmental Management, Office of Land Quality, conducted an inspection of your Confined Feeding Facility, located near Butler, Indiana. This inspection was conducted pursuant to IC 13-14-2-2. For your information, and in accordance with IC 13-14-5, a summary of the inspection is provided below:

Type of Inspection:  
X  Routine  
___  Complaint  
___  Other

Results of Inspection:  
___  No violations were observed  
___  Violations were observed but corrected during the inspection (See inspection report)  
X  Violations were observed. (See inspection report)  
___  Additional information/review is required to evaluate overall compliance.  
___  Violations were observed and will be referred to the Land Enforcement Section  
___  Other
On November 5, 2015, Mr. Matt Brown of the Confined Feeding Compliance Section conducted an inspection of the above referenced facility (copy of the inspection report enclosed). This inspection revealed violations of the Indiana Water Regulation, 327 IAC 19. The following violations were noted at the time of the inspection:

**Confined Feeding Operation Violations**

**Operational Standards**

**Maintenance and Operation**

327 IAC 19-13-1(a): All waste management systems and application equipment must be maintained and operated to meet the approval conditions.

**Violation Detail(s):** One of the pump out ports on the south side of building labeled E-1 on the farmstead map is broken at grade which could potentially allow water to get into the pit (see attached photo). Several of the buckets covering the pump out ports are broken and need replaced (see attached photos).

**Required Action:** The waste management system must be repaired in such a way as to prevent excess water from entering the pits.

**Land Application Records**

**Manure and Soil Testing**

327 IAC 19-7-5(c): A soil test must be obtained that provides sufficient information about soil fertility to allow for nutrient recommendations for existing or planned crops. Soil tests may not represent more than twenty (20) acres per sample. The frequency of this testing must be: (1) specified in the manure management plan; and (2) conducted a minimum of once every four (4) years unless a different frequency is approved by the department in writing and is included in the manure management plan.

**Violation Detail(s):** Soil samples were not present in the operating records

**Required Action:** The owner/operator must conduct soil and manure test in accordance with the manure management plan. The soil tests need to be added to the operating record and made available for review.
Within sixty (60) days of receipt of this letter, compliance must be achieved with each of the requirements listed above. Noncompliance with any of the violations listed above, noted at the time of the next inspection, may result in a referral to IDEM's Land Enforcement Section. Please direct any questions to Matt Brown at (317) 727-6911. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Charles P. Grady
Section Chief
Confined Feeding Compliance Section
Office of Land Quality

Enclosure

cc: Miami County Health Department
**CFO INSPECTION REPORT**
**INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT**

**Inspector’s Name:** Matt Brown

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Others Present</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brian L Troyer</td>
<td>Owner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roger Vincent</td>
<td>Manager</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Date:** 11/5/2015

**Time In:** 10:30 AM

**Time Out:** 11:30 AM

### General Information

#### Inspection Type

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Inspection Type</th>
<th>CFO Routine</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

#### Facility Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facility Name:</th>
<th>Troyer Farms</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Facility Location:**
- Street Address: 7293 S CR 650 E
- City: Peru
- State: IN
- Zip Code: 46970
- County: Miami

**Facility Mailing Information:**
- Mailing Address: 6088 E. CR 550 S.
- Mailing City: Peru
- Mailing State: IN
- Mailing Zip Code: 46970

**Facility Contact Information:**
- Contact Person: Roger Vincent
- Contacts Phone Number: 765-395-7544
- Contact Fax Number: 
- Contact E-mail Address: 

**Owner Contact Information**
- Owner Name: Brian L. Troyer
- Owner Phone Number: 765-473-6558
- Owner Fax Number: 
- Owner E-mail Address: 

#### Facility ID

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Log Number</th>
<th>3583</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

#### Animal Types

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Animals Present</th>
<th>None</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

#### Manure Management Systems

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Manure Management System</th>
<th>Earthen Waste Storage Pit or Pond</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

#### Approved Structures

| Number of Permitted Structures | 3 |
| Number of Observed Structures  | 3 |

#### Outstanding Issues

| Last Inspection Date: | 12/10/2009 |
| Previous Violation(s): | Yes No |

### Checklist

#### Discharge and Spill Requirements

- [ ] Unpermitted Discharge
- [ ] Spill Not Reported
- [ ] Spills Not Managed

#### Approval and Performance Standards

- [ ] No Valid Approval
- [ ] Approval Condition
- [ ] Access Denied

#### Operational Standards

#### Manure Application Activities
Today, a full compliance inspection was conducted at the Troyer Farms facility. First, I met with Roger Vincent and Brian Troyer onsite for a record review. The manure sample was reported 6-25-2015, and was in the operating record. The soil samples were not present and will need to be added to the operating records for review. The last land application was applied October 16, 2015. After the record review a site tour was conducted. The site was not populated for the inspection, but usually operates at the permitted capacity of 1,300 finishers. There is a building being used for composting any dead stock located to the west of the barn labeled E-2 on the farmstead map. There are several pump-out ports that need to have the buckets/cover replaced. One pump-out port located to the south of barn labeled E-1 on the farmstead map needs to be repaired. The PVC port is broken and could potentially allow water to enter the pit at grade (see attached photos).

Description of Violations and Further Actions

The findings noted in this report do not include a compliance evaluation for the submittal of required construction notifications, construction affidavits, facility change notifications, as-built plans, waste storage structure closures, and special compliance monitoring reports or data.

Operational Standards

Maintenance and Operation

327 IAC 19-13-1(a): All waste management systems and application equipment must be maintained and operated to meet the approval conditions.

Violation Detail(s): One of the pump out ports on the south side of building labeled E-1 on the farmstead map is broken at grade which could potentially allow water to enter the pit (see attached photo). Several of the buckets covering the pump out ports are broken and need replaced (see attached photos).

Required Action: The waste management system must be repaired in such a way as to prevent excess water from entering
the pits.

**Land Application Records**

**Manure and Soil Testing**

327 IAC 19-7-5(c): A soil test must be obtained that provides sufficient information about soil fertility to allow for nutrient recommendations for existing or planned crops. Soil tests may not represent more than twenty (20) acres per sample. The frequency of this testing must be: (1) specified in the manure management plan; and (2) conducted a minimum of once every four (4) years unless a different frequency is approved by the department in writing and is included in the manure management plan.

**Violation Detail(s):** Soil samples were not present in the operating records

**Required Action:** The owner/operator must conduct soil and manure test in accordance with the manure management plan. The soil tests need to be added to the operating record and made available for review.

**Inspection Documentation**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Photograph's Taken</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Map(s)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GPS Location Collected</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field Screening Conducted</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lab Sample</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Inspection Results/Actions**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Single Media Inspection Results</td>
<td>Violation(s) were discovered and required a submittal from you and/or follow-up inspection by IDEM.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compliance Assistance Visit</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certificate of Compliance</td>
<td>Certificate of Compliance provided is due within 60 days of receipt of this letter.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Finalize Inspection**

| Written Summary of Inspection | Notice of Inspection and/or Verbal Summary Provided. |

**Inspector Information**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Inspector:</th>
<th>Matt Brown</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Phone Number:</td>
<td>(317) 727-6911</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email Address:</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mbrown@idem.in.gov">mbrown@idem.in.gov</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
This photo shows a bucket that needs to be replaced in order to cover the pump out port located to the north of building labeled E-1 on the farmstead map.

This photo shows a broken pump out port that needs to be replaced in order to prevent water from entering the pit. This port is located to the south of building labeled E-1 on the farmstead map.
Facility Name
Troyer Farms - FID - 3583

Photographer
Matt Brown

Date/Time
11/05/2015, 11:14 AM

Others Present
Brian Troyer and Roger Vincent

Description
This photo shows a broken pump out port that needs to be replaced in order to prevent water from entering the pit. This port is located to the south of building labeled E-1 on the farmstead map.