

Unknown Speaker 0:02

Okay, testing, testing, testing,

Unknown Speaker 0:06

okay, can you hear me? Okay, yes, we can. Thank you. All right, thank you. My name is Tim Baumgartner. I am the director of regulatory and permitting services for the Dairy Business Association and our office is located at 2763 Manitowoc Road in Green Bay, Wisconsin. The Dairy Business Association supports the uh, or recommends the approval of the WPDES permit modification for Ridge Breeze Dairy, located in Maiden Rock, Wisconsin. The owners of Ridge Breeze Dairy have a long and successful record of operating CAFOs in Wisconsin. They exhibit their commitment to responsible and sustainable operations of their dairy farms, and they have shown this ability to work proactively with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to obtain and meet the requirements for WPDES permit, protecting the state's water resources is a fundamental objective of the farm's management of their land and animals. They believe they have a shared commitment with local community and the state to take measures to protect water resources, and they realize the abundant, the importance of safe and abundant water supply for their land, the cattle and, of course, the families and neighbors in their in their community. And they continually exhibit this commitment by towards working, towards not only meeting but exceeding the requirements of the work WPDES permit process.

Unknown Speaker 1:37

There's been some mention of acreage, as far as the permit is concerned. If you look at the history of Breeze Dairy Group, they have always strived to maintain more acreage than necessary when it comes to operating their farms that are all actually regulated CAFO farms in the in the state of Wisconsin, and they will continue to strive to do so in this instance as well, by trying to add additional land to their nutrient management plan. This allows them flexibility in meeting setbacks requirements and as as important when it comes to raising crops, it allows them to maintain adequate soil health and fertility, fertility to produce the best and most nutritionally available crops to feed to their livestock. They illustrate the benefits of having additional acreage, the additional benefits, the benefits of having additional acreage allows them to adapt to variable weather conditions, much like that we're seeing this year, that allows them to adhere to their nutrient management plans even when field conditions are less than ideal.

Unknown Speaker 2:36

The farm intent is intently focused on, on using approved conservation and sustainable farming practices. These included, these include, but are not limited to no-till, no-till planting and the implementing the use of cover crops to improve soil health and utilize nutrients, which which helps provide protection of erosion and to conserve topsoil, in turn, obviously producing, again, better crops to feed to their livestock. They also incorporate technologies like solid-liquid separation to reduce the volume of manure being produced, which in turn reduces traffic on roads, helps control energy costs and overall emit and overall emissions.

Unknown Speaker 3:18

Breeze Dairy Group, like many, dairies utilize a circular approach of raising the crops they feed their animals, and then these nutrients being passed through the manure to feed to their growing crops. The milk and meat from animals become nutritious food for the loc,Â for the local community and beyond. This full cycle system allows the farm to operate in a sustainable, sustainable and most self-sufficient manner, with minimal reliance on synthetic fertilizers or other inputs that need to be trucked in from other parts of the United States or even farther away. The self-contained approach also means, again, less traffic on farm and the local county road and local roads that are used by everyone. For these reasons and and others we support,Â we do,Â the Dairy Business Association does support the approval of the modification to the permit for Ridge Breeze Dairy group and the WPDES permit. Thank you.

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