

BUREAU OF WASTE MANAGEMENT

DIVISION OF MUNICIPAL and RESIDUAL WASTE

GENERAL PERMIT WMG084

BENEFICIAL USE OF DEWATERED INDUSTRIAL WASTEWATER
TREATMENT RESIDUAL AS A SOIL ADDITIVE FOR
AGRICULTURAL UTILIZATION AND MINE RECLAMATION

Issued: March 4, 2024

Expires: March 4, 2034

A. Description:

This general permit authorizes the beneficial use of dewatered industrial wastewater treatment residual from the production of formaldehyde, trimethyloethane (TME), dimethylolproprionic acid (DMPA), and calcium formate, hereinafter referred to as "wastewater treatment sludge" or "sludge", as a soil additive for agricultural utilization and mine reclamation, and as an ingredient to produce other soil additives.

B. Determination of Applicability Requirements:

A person or municipality that proposes to beneficially use or send dewatered industrial wastewater residual for beneficial use under the terms and conditions of this general permit after the date of permit issuance must obtain a "Determination of Applicability" ("DOA") from the appropriate Department Regional Office (see attached list) prior to commencing authorized activities under this general permit. A completed application on forms provided by the Department must be submitted electronically to the appropriate Department Regional Office. Additionally, the application fee should be submitted to the appropriate Department Regional Office. Checks shall be made payable to the "Commonwealth of Pennsylvania". No activities shall commence unless approved, in writing, by the Department.

C. Operating Conditions:

- 1. The approval granted in this permit shall include only sludge currently generated by the industrial wastewater treatment process. The approval does not include sludge removed from a storage or disposal impoundment or a landfill.
- 2. If the industrial wastewater treatment facility producing the sludge processes any sewage along with the industrial wastewater, the sludge may not be beneficially used under this permit unless the wastewater treatment sludge is nonliquid and continuously meets the following:
 - a. The pollutant concentrations requirements as specified in §271.914(b)(3).
 - b. One of the Class A pathogen reduction requirements as specified in §271.932(a).
 - c. One of the vector attraction reduction requirements as specified in §271.933(b)(1-8).
- 3. The wastewater treatment sludge may be beneficially used if, prior to its use, the quality criteria requirements below are met. The analytical methodologies used to meet the requirements in this section shall be those in the most recent edition of the EPA's 'Test Methods for Evaluating Solid Waste, Physical/Chemical Methods" (EPA SW-846), "Methods for Chemical Analysis of Water and Wastes" (EPA 600/4-79-020), "Standard Methods for Examination of Water and

Wastewater" (prepared and published jointly by the American Public Health Association, American Waterworks Association, and Water Pollution Control Federation), or a comparable method subsequently approved by the EPA or the Department.

Constituent	<u>Total</u>	Leachable (mg/l)*
COD		100
Cyanide		0.2
Formaldehyde		7
Free Liquids	None	
Oil and Grease	500	
Phenols		0.175

^{*}The ASTM water leaching procedure (ASTM D3987) or the synthetic precipitation leaching procedure (EPA Method 1312), extraction fluid #3, or other leaching procedure approved by the Department shall be used for all leaching analyses.

Should the sludge contain other constituents which do not meet the requirements of §288.623(a) (relating to minimum requirements for acceptable waste) or which pose a threat of harm to human health or the environment, the sludge shall not be beneficially used.

- 4. Prior to the beneficial use of the sludge, the permittee shall perform chemical analysis on a representative sample of sludge for the appropriate parameters listed in C.2 and C.3.
 - a. Quarterly, for sludge obtained directly from the generator. In addition, each time there is a significant change in the process generating the sludge.
 - b. Each time a new source of sludge is received.
- 5. For each new source of wastewater treatment sludge, the permittee shall submit an analysis of a representative sample of the waste to the appropriate Department's Bureau of Waste Management Department regional office (see attached list) including all the parameters listed in C.2 and C.3, no less than fifteen days, prior to sludge application. The permittee may apply the wastewater treatment sludge in accordance with the conditions of this permit after the aforementioned fifteen-day period unless otherwise instructed by the Department.
- 6. Unless authorized by the Department in writing, storage of the wastewater treatment sludge generated at the facility is not allowed except in the holding lagoons as part of the operation.
- 7. The permittee shall notify the county planning commission, county conservation district, and municipality in which wastewater treatment sludge application to

- agricultural lands as a soil additive is proposed, by delivering or causing to be delivered a copy of this permit, and identifying the location(s) onto which sludge application is intended.
- 8. The permittee shall provide a copy of the Appendix D to each user of wastewater treatment sludge for agricultural utilization and of the Appendix E to each user of wastewater treatment sludge for mine reclamation approved under this permit. It is incumbent upon the permittee to see all users of treated sludge approved under this permit comply with all conditions of this permit.
- 9. At a minimum, at least one person for the permittee with responsibility for the land application of wastewater treatment sludge is required to satisfactorily complete biosolids training, provided by the Department. This training requirement should be satisfied within six months of this permit issuance.
- 10. The activities authorized by this permit shall not cause or allow conditions that are harmful to the environment, public health or safety, including but not limited to, odors, noise, or other public nuisances. The permittee shall not cause or allow the attraction, harborage, or breeding of vectors.
- 11. The permittee shall develop and implement a Preparedness, Prevention and Contingency Plan (PPC) that is consistent with the Department's most recent guidelines.
- 12. All activities conducted under the authorization granted in this permit shall be conducted in accordance with the permittee's application. Except to the extent the permit states otherwise, the permittee shall utilize materials as described in the permit application.
- 13. The permittee shall comply with the fugitive emissions regulations under 25 Pa. Code, Chapter 123 (relating to standards for contaminants) issued under the Air Pollution Control Act, the Act of January 8, 1960, P.L. 2119, 35 P.S. §4005, and shall comply with all the applicable provisions of 25 Pa. Code §§123.1 and 123.2 (relating to prohibition of certain fugitive emissions and fugitive particulate matter).
- 14. Nothing in this permit shall be construed to supersede, amend, or authorize a violation of any of the provisions of any valid and applicable local law, ordinance, or regulation, providing that said local law, ordinance, or regulation is not preempted by the Solid Waste Management Act (SWMA), 35 P.S. §§ 6018.101—6018.1001; and the Municipal Waste Planning, Recycling and Waste Reduction Act of 1988, 53 P.S. §§4000.101, et seq.
- 15. As a condition of this general permit and of the permittee's authority to conduct the activities authorized by this general permit, the permittee hereby authorizes and consents to allow authorized employees or agents of the Department, without advance notice or search warrant, upon presentation of appropriate credentials and without delay, to have access to and inspect all areas on which solid waste management activities are being, will be, or have been conducted. This authorization and consent shall include consent to collect samples of waste,

soils, water, or gases; take photographs; perform measurements, surveys, and other tests; inspect any monitoring equipment; inspect the methods of operation and inspect and/or copy documents, books, and papers required by the Department to be maintained. This permit condition is referenced in accordance with Sections 6018.608 and 6018.610(7) of the SWMA, 35 P.S. §§ 6018.608 and 6018.610(7). This condition in no way limits any other powers granted under the SWMA.

- 16. Any independent contractors or agents retained by the permittee in the completion of activities authorized under this general permit shall be subject to compliance history review by the Department prior to performance of any activities, as specified by the SWMA.
- 17. Failure of measures herein approved to perform as intended, or as designed, or in compliance with the applicable laws, rules, and regulations and terms and conditions of this permit, for any reason, shall be grounds for the revocation or suspension of the permittee's approval to operate under this permit.
- 18. The activities authorized by this general permit shall not harm or present a threat of harm to the health, safety, or welfare of the people or environment of this Commonwealth. The Department may modify, suspend, revoke, and reissue the authorization granted in this general permit if it deems necessary to prevent harm or the threat of harm to the public health, and the environment or if they cannot be adequately regulated under the conditions of this general permit.
- 19. The permittee shall comply with the terms and conditions of this general permit and with the environmental protection acts to the same extent as if the activities were covered by an individual permit. The Department may require an individual permit be obtained if the permittee cannot comply with the conditions of this general permit or is conducting an activity that harms or presents a threat of harm to the health, safety, or welfare of the public or the environment of this Commonwealth.
- 20. This permit does not authorize and shall not be construed as an approval to discharge any waste, wastewater, or runoff from the site of processing or the land application sites to the land or waters of the Commonwealth.
- 21. Best Management Practices shall be implemented to divert storm water run-on from the storage area. Storm water runoff shall be managed in accordance with The Clean Streams Law and regulations promulgated thereunder. Prior to beginning operations at the facility, the operator must obtain all necessary storm water management permits.
- 22. The permittee shall maintain in force and affect a general liability insurance policy in accordance with 25 Pa. Code, Chapter 287, Subchapter E (relating to bonding and insurance requirements) to provide continuous coverage during operation of the facility and until the Department issues a final closure certification.
- 23. Equipment used for the processing and storage of wastewater treatment sludge shall be maintained in good operating condition. When in use, daily inspections of each storage area and surrounding environs shall be conducted to determine

compliance of the terms and conditions of this general permit and for evidence of failure.

- 24. Storage of wastewater treatment sludge by the permittee shall be in a manner that complies with the requirements set forth in 25 Pa. Code, Chapter 299 (relating to storage and transportation of residual waste).
- 25. The wastewater treatment sludge shall not be mixed with other types of solid wastes, including hazardous waste, municipal waste, special handling waste, or other residual waste, as the terms are defined in 25 Pa. Code § 287.1.
- 26. Analytical testing required by this general permit shall be performed by a laboratory accredited under the Pennsylvania Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Act, Act of 2002, 27 Pa. C.S.A. §§ 4101-4113.

D. Recordkeeping:

- 1. The permittee shall maintain records of all analytical evaluations conducted in accordance with this permit, and records shall be made available to the Department upon request. Required records shall be retained for a minimum of 5 years. Records of analytical evaluations must include, at a minimum, the following for each sample: the dates of sampling and testing, sampling procedures utilized, name of the individual who collected the sample, the volume or weight of the sample, each parameter tested, the analytical results, the name of the analytical laboratory used, and the analytical methodologies employed.
- 2. The permittee shall maintain records of all waste sent for beneficial use, and records shall be made available to the Department upon request. Required records shall be retained for a minimum of 5 years. Records of outgoing waste must include, at a minimum, the following: the name, address, and phone number of the site where wastewater treatment sludge was sent for beneficial use; the date of delivery; the quantity of waste sent and the results of visual observations. Records of waste beneficially used at each site shall include: the weight or volume of the wastewater treatment sludge applied, the number of acres to which sludge was applied, the date sludge was applied to each site, the sludge agronomic loading rate in dry tons per acre and the date beneficial use activities were completed or are estimated to be completed. The permittee shall also maintain records of spills or releases that include, at a minimum, the following: the location, date, time, identification, and quantity of spilled or released material, and a description of how the material was cleaned up. The permittee shall also maintain records of all reports submitted to the Department or to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

E. Reporting Requirements:

1. Any person that operates under the provisions of this permit shall immediately notify the Department via certified mail of any changes in: the company name, address, owners, operators, and/or responsible officials of the company,

compliance status, and the status of any permit issued by the Department or federal government under the environmental protection acts.

2. Any person that operates under the provisions of this permit shall immediately notify the Department via certified mail of any changes in: the location of land application sites; land ownership and the right to enter and operate on any land where the wastewater treatment sludge application is to take place; the physical or chemical characteristics of the wastewater treatment sludge; the generator(s) of the wastewater treatment sludge or the manufacturing process that generates the wastewater treatment sludge.

At least 30 days prior to land application of wastewater treatment sludge at a new location, the permittee shall submitted in writing, to the appropriate Department Regional Office with jurisdiction over the site the following information:

- a. Name, street address and telephone number of the property owner;
- b. Proof that the applicant has legal right to enter the land and perform the activities approved under this permit;
- c. An irrevocable written consent from the landowner giving the Department permission to enter upon land where the applicant will be conducting solid waste management activities;
- d. A map clearly showing the land application site and all setback distances as required under Appendix D.
- 3. Persons operating under the provision of this general permit shall submit to the appropriate Department Regional Office (see attached list), an annual report on the beneficial use activities conducted under this permit by March 1 for the preceding calendar year. This report shall include the information required by Conditions C.5, D.1. and D.2.
- 4. The permittee shall immediately notify the Department's Emergency Hotline by telephone at 800-541-2050 and the waste management program in the appropriate DEP regional office (see attached list) of any accidental spills and shall take appropriate immediate action to protect the health and safety of the public and the environment.

F. Renewal:

A person or municipality that plans to continue the operations authorized under this general permit, after the expiration date indicated on the approval for coverage page, shall file a complete application for permit renewal at least 180 days before the expiration date of this general permit unless permission has been granted by the Department for submission at a later date. The renewal applications shall be submitted to the appropriate DEP Regional Office (see attached list) and include, at a minimum, the following:

- 1. General Information Form (Authorization Application for a Residual or Municipal Waste General Permit Application),
- 2. Form B (Professional Certification),
- 3. Form 20 (Application for a Municipal or Residual Waste General Permit),
- 4. Form 27R (Acceptance of General Permit Conditions).

Additionally, a renewal application fee in the amount identified in Section A (General Information) of the Form 20 must be sent to the appropriate DEP Regional Office. A check shall be made payable to the "Commonwealth of Pennsylvania."

In the event that a timely and complete application for renewal has been submitted and the Department is unable, through no fault of the permittee, to reissue the general permit or approval for coverage before its current coverage expiration date, the terms and conditions of the approved coverage will automatically continue and will remain fully effective and enforceable pending the issuance or denial of the renewal for permit coverage, provided the permittee is, and has been, operating in compliance with the terms and conditions of the general permit.

Department of Environmental Protection Regional Offices (and Counties Served)

I. Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, Philadelphia.

Southeast Regional Office

2 East Main Street Norristown, PA 19401 Phone: (484) 250 - 5960

II. Carbon, Lackawanna, Lehigh, Luzerne, Monroe, Northampton, Pike, Schuylkill, Susquehanna, Wayne, Wyoming.

Northeast Regional Office

2 Public Square Wilkes-Barre, PA 18711-0790 Phone: (570) 826 – 2516

III. Adams, Bedford, Berks, Blair, Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, Fulton, Huntingdon, Juniata, Lancaster, Lebanon, Mifflin, Perry, York.

Southcentral Regional Office

909 Elmerton Avenue Harrisburg, PA 17110-8200 Phone: (717) 705 – 4706

IV. Bradford, Cameron, Centre, Clearfield, Clinton, Columbia, Lycoming, Montour, Northumberland, Potter, Snyder, Sullivan, Tioga, Union.

Northcentral Regional Office

208 West 3rd Street - Suite 101 Williamsport, PA 17701 Phone: (570) 327 – 3653

V. Allegheny, Beaver, Cambria, Fayette, Greene, Somerset, Washington, Westmoreland.

Southwest Regional Office

400 Waterfront Drive Pittsburgh, PA 15222-4745 Phone: (412) 442 – 4000

VI. Armstrong, Butler, Clarion, Crawford, Elk, Erie, Forest, Indiana, Jefferson, Lawrence, McKean, Mercer, Venango, Warren.

Northwest Regional Office

230 Chestnut Street Meadville, PA 16335-3481 Phone: 814-332-6848

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WORKSHEET 1 SLUDGE ANNUAL AGRONOMIC RATE

Fi	ield		Crop
G	Growing Season Year Site		Yield Goal
1.	Total available Nitrogen from sludge		
a.	. NH ₄ -N % NH ₄ ¹ x 2000 lb/ton ÷	100 =	lb/ton NH₄-N
	NH ₄ lb/ton x K _{vol}		
b.	. Org-N % NH ₄ 1 x 2000 lb/ton		
	Org lb/ton x K _{min} (Mi	n. Rate Table) =	lb/ton Org-N
	Total Plant Available Nitrogen (PAN) from sludge (a +	b):	lb/ton
2.	P_2O_5 and K_2O fertilizer equivalent in sludge (Nutrient r	management informat	ion for the farmer)
	% P' in sludge x 2.29 =		
	% P ₂ O ₅ x 2000 lb/ton	÷ 100 =	lb/ton P ₂ O ₅
b.	% K' in sludge x 1.2 = % K ₂ O x 2000 lb/ton ÷		
3.	Total crop nitrogen requirement		
	(From soil analysis, historical data, or Penn State Agro	onomy Guide)	lb/acre
4.	Nitrogen provided from other N sources either added	to or mineralized in the	e soil
a.	N from previous legume crop (Penn State Agronomy OR (Forage) / AN	•	lb/acre
b.	Estimate of available N from previous sludge application	` '	Ib/acre
	(Workshe	eet 3)	
C.	Estimate of available N from historical manure application (Workshop)		Ib/acre
d.	Greater of either a or (b + c) (Forage)	lb/ac	re
e.	Sum of (a + b + e Estimate of available N from current manure application (Workshop)	on	lb/acre
f.	N from chemical fertilizers	lb/acre	

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WORKSHEET 1 SLUDGE ANNUAL AGRONOMIC RATE

g.	Other sources (ex. food processing waste) lb/acre)
	Total Nitrogen available (d + e + f + g) lb/acre	
5.	Adjusted nitrogen requirement (Subtract 4 from 3)	lb/acre
6.	Calculate the agronomic rate for sludge (Divide 5 by 1)	lb/acre
7.	Calculate amount of sludge to be applied (wet tons/acre or gallons/acre)	-
	Wet tons/acre = Dry tons/acre ÷ Decimal)	% Solids (Ir

GENERAL PERMIT WMGR084 APPENDIX B

WORKSHEET 2 PLANT AVAILABLE NITROGEN MINERALIZED FROM RESIDUAL ORGANIC N APPLIED AS SLUDGE IN CURRENT YEAR

Field	Crop	
Growing Season Year		
Step 1. Column 1.A The year of sludge Step 2. Block	e application and insert appropriate 1.B Obtain by the following equa	
•	alysis) x (20001b/ton = 100) =	•
% Org-N ¹ x (2000	0 lb/ton ÷ 100) =	lb/ton Org-N
lb/ton Org-N x actual applic	ation rate (in dry ton/acre) = Org	J-N applied (in lb/acre)
¹ Value from	wastewater treatment sludge analy	ysis
Step 3. Column C - The mineralization rat	te for the specific sludge treatment	for the respective year (i.e., 1, 2,
	or 3). See K _{min} Table.	
Step 4. Col	lumn D = Column B x Column	С
Step 5. Col	umn E = Column B - Column	n D
Step 6 . Block 2.B. =	Value in Block 1.E. and follow St	eps 4 and 5

Step 7. Block 3.B. = Value in Block 2.E. and follow Steps 4 and 5

	Column A	Column B	Column C	Column D	Column E
	Year of Growing Season (Year of Application)	Organic N (lb/acre)	Mineralization Rate (K _{min}) (Min. Rate Table)	Mineralized Organic N (lb/acre) (PAN)	Organic N Remaining (lb/acre)
1	Growing Season 0-1 Year				
2	Growing Season 1-2 Year	(from 1.E)			
3	Growing Season 2-3 Year	(from 2.E)			

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WORKSHEET 2 PLANT AVAILABLE NITROGEN MINERALIZED FROM RESIDUAL ORGANIC N APPLIED AS SLUDGE IN THE CURRENT YEAR

Volatilization Factors (K_{vol})

If Sludge Is:	Factor K _{vol} Is:		
Liquid and surface applied	0.50		
Liquid and injected into the soil	1.0		
Dewatered and applied in any matter	0.50		

Mineralization Rates¹ (Kmin)

Time after Sludge Application (Year)	% ² of Org-N Mineralized from Unstabilized Primary & Waste Activated Sludge	% ² of Org-N Mineralized from Aerobic or Lime Stabilized Digested Sludge	% ² of Org-N Mineralized from Abaaerobically Digested Sludge	% ² of Org-N Mineralized from Composted Sludge
0-1	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.1
1-2	0.2	0.15	0.1	0.05
2-3	0.1	0.08	0.05	0.03

Percentage of Org-N present mineralized during the time interval shown.

² Expressed as a decimal.

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WORKSHEET 3 MANURE

C	Field Growing Season YearSite				Yield Goal					
				Manure Res	idua	l Nitro	ogen (Historical)			
	Manure Rate (ton/acre)		Manure N (lb/ton) (Penn State Agronomy Guide)			N Availability x Factor (Penn State Agronomy Guide)		l <u>=</u>		Available Residual Nitrogen (lb/acre)
				Manure N	itroç	gen (C	Current Year)1			
	Expected Manure Application Rate (ton/acre)		x	x Manure N (lb/ton) (Penn State Agronomy Guide)		x	N Availability Factor (Penn State Agronomy Guide)		=	Available Residual Nitrogen (lb/acre)
<u>L</u>				¹ Include	es pi	eviou	s fall application			
to			_				Agronomy Guide, Table 2-12 or ma			-13. alysis provided by farm
		ble	Nitro	sidue Nitrogen fr gen from Manure n from Manure		Manu	=			lb/acre lb/acre lb/acre

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SITE REQUIREMENTS

- 1. A farm conservation plan in accordance with 25 Pa. Code, Chapter 102 (relating to erosion control) shall be implemented at the farm at which the wastewater treatment sludge is land applied.
- 2. Equipment used for the storage and application of the wastewater treatment sludge shall be maintained in good operating condition. Daily inspections of equipment during wastewater treatment sludge application activities are to be conducted to ensure that equipment will operate properly and examine for evidence of equipment failure.
- 3. Except at designated storage areas, as covered in d, wastewater treatment sludge may be stored, for a maximum of 7 days, on the farm where land application is to take place. The total amount of wastewater treatment sludge that may be stored shall not exceed the amount required by the agronomic rate for the current crop rotation. If storing wastewater treatment sludge in a pile, under no circumstances may free liquids be present in the sludge, as determined by Method 9095 (Paint Filter Liquids Test) "Test Methods for Evaluating Solid Waste, Physical/Chemical Methods" (EPA SW846).
- 4. Wastewater treatment sludge may be stored in designated storage areas for up to 180 days unless the Department provides written objections to the long-term storage. These objections may be based on inadequate design of the storage area, failure to follow the requirements for the storage area found below, problems with odor, groundwater contamination or runoff from the storage area, or other nuisances from the storage area. Requirements for a designated storage area are as follows:
 - a. A map showing the location of the designated storage area, a diagram showing its design and a description of its operations shall be provided to the appropriate Department's Bureau of Waste Management Department regional office (see attached list) with jurisdiction over the site. Written approval from the Department shall be obtained prior to installation of the designated storage area.
 - b. The designated storage area shall not be located within 300 feet of an occupied dwelling unless a written waiver is provided by the current owner of the dwelling.
 - c. The designated storage area shall be designed, constructed and operated in a manner to minimize run-on, run-off, odors and the harboring, breeding or attraction of vectors. Designated storage areas may not be located on slopes exceeding three (3) percent unless otherwise approved in writing by the Department.
 - d. Weekly inspections of the designated storage area shall be conducted for any signs of failure of the integrity of the area, spills, run-on, run-off, odors or other problems. Corrections or repairs shall be made promptly. Inspections shall also be made after any severe weather event.
 - e. Except during times when wastewater treatment sludge is being actively added to or removed from the designated storage area, the wastewater treatment sludge shall be covered with tarps or other cover materials, if approved in writing by the Department, capable of minimizing water from rain, snow or other weather-related events from reaching the wastewater treatment sludge. The tarps or

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cover materials shall be visually inspected weekly or every time the cover is moved, whichever is more frequent, for rips, tears or other signs of breeching. Rips, tears or other signs of breeching shall be promptly repaired, or the cover is to be promptly replaced.

- f. Inspections shall be logged documenting the date, time, inspector, conditions of the site and any corrections or repairs required.
- g. Wastewater treatment sludge containing free liquids shall not be stored at a designated storage area.
- h. When necessary, structures shall be utilized to collect run-off or leachate from the designated storage area. Any water collected from the storage area that was in contact with the wastewater treatment sludge shall be removed to a treatment facility permitted to accept this collected water or applied on-site to areas suitable for application of wastewater treatment sludge under this general permit. If applied on-site, the quantity applied shall be such that ponding or run-off does not occur and that the total application of the run-off, leachate and treatment plant sludge does not exceed the agronomic rate for the proposed crop for a 180-day period.
- i. At no time may all the designated storage areas on a site contain more wastewater treatment sludge than can be applied and will be applied at an agronomic rate for the proposed crop for a 180-day period on that site. During application periods for the spring and fall cropping cycles, each designated storage area shall be completely emptied of wastewater treatment sludge.
- 5. Wastewater treatment sludge shall not be stored in direct contact with or applied directly into ground water or surface water.
- 6. The storage, transportation, or use of the wastewater treatment sludge shall be in a manner that will not create a nuisance or be harmful to public health, safety, or the environment, and shall be in a manner that prevents the dispersal of wastewater treatment sludge by wind or water erosion.
- 7. Runoff from the wastewater treatment sludge storage area shall not cause surface water pollution or groundwater degradation and shall be managed in accordance with The Clean Streams Law and regulations promulgated thereunder.
- 8. Under no circumstances shall the wastewater treatment sludge be applied at an agricultural site at a rate that is greater than the agronomic loading rate.
- 9. During the first land application of wastewater treatment sludge, soil pH on sites where wastewater treatment sludge is being applied shall be maintained within the range of 6.0 or greater. The soil pH may be adjusted by the addition of lime or other suitable material and maintenance of the soil pH at 6.0 or greater is required during the operational life of the site and for two years following the end of the sludge application

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- Waste treatment sludge shall not be applied to slopes greater than 25%.
- 11. Wastewater treatment sludge shall not be applied to the land during periods of rain or to ground that is saturated, covered with snow, or frozen.
- 12. When land applying of wastewater treatment sludge, displaying the permit number of this general permit on the back and both sides of each application vehicle that is used in the land application of, in alphanumeric characters at least 3 inches high in a color contrasting to the background.
- 13. Wastewater treatment sludge shall not be applied or stored within these isolation distances:
 - a. 100 feet or less of a perennial stream or within 33 feet of an intermittent stream;
 - b. Within 300 feet of a water source, unless the current owner has provided a written waiver consenting to the activities closer than 300 feet;
 - c. Within 100 feet of an exceptional value wetland, as defined in 25 Pa Code §105.17 (relating to wetlands);
 - d. Within 100 feet of the edge of a sinkhole or the perimeter of an unlined depression;
 - e. In an area without an implemented erosion and sedimentation control plan or a farm conservation plan;
 - f. Within 11 inches of the seasonal high water table, nor within 3.3 feet of the regional ground water table. For purposes of this condition, the depths to seasonal high water table and regional ground water table shall be based on the most recent soil mapping as published by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service, or more detailed mapping data as mapped by an expert in soil science using standard and acceptable mapping procedures as developed by the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service.
- 14. Wastewater treatment sludge is to be spread or sprayed in thin layers to prevent ponding or standing accumulations of liquids or sludges.
- 15. Wastewater treatment sludge is to be turned under or incorporated into the soil within 24 hours of application except when not required under the under the soil conservation and crop rotation plan approved by the applicable Conservation District.
- 16. Slopes to be utilized for wastewater treatment sludge application may not exceed:

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- a. 15 percent for agricultural utilization. Slopes up to 20 percent may be approved for the surface application of the sludge to well-established hayfields, pastures and cover crops, or no-till crops where the previous no-till crop was harvested in a manner that left adequate residue.
- b. 20 percent for mine reclamation. The Department's Bureau of Mining Programs or Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation may approve as part of the mine reclamation plan slopes of up to 35 percent if the permittee demonstrates to the Department's satisfaction that the slopes will not cause erosion or offsite runoff.
- 17. Wastewater treatment sludge is not to be applied which will result in runoff, vector or odor problems.
- 18. The annual whole sludge application rate or agronomic loading rate shall be estimated using "Worksheets 1 and 2" as provided in the Appendices A and B and submitted to the Department as part of the annual report required in Section E. (Reporting Requirements) of the permit.
- 19. If the nitrogen available from the manure produced by animals at the farm satisfies the nutrient needs of the farm for realistic expected crop yields, the wastewater treatment sludge may not be applied at the farm, unless a management plan is implemented that allows for uses of the manure other than land application on that farm.
- 20. Nitrogen from the manure that was applied to the fields which received sludge shall be calculated using "Worksheet 3" as provided in the Appendix C and submitted to the Department as part of the annual report required in Section E. (Reporting Requirements) of the permit.

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RESTRICTIONS ON SLUDGE USED FOR MINE RECLAMATION

The following restrictions apply to the beneficial use of sludge when used at permitted mine sites and at abandoned mine sites. Persons receiving, storing, and/or using the sludge for beneficial use purposes are required to comply with the following requirements:

- a. Sludge shall not be stored in direct contact with or applied directly into ground water.
- b. All sludge transported to any site must be applied beneficially and incorporated within 24 hours.
- c. Surface water and control erosion and sedimentation shall be managed at mine sites to meet the applicable requirements of 25 Pa. Code Chapter 102 (relating to erosion control).
- d. Prior to use on sludge in mine reclamation projects, the user shall submit to and the appropriate county, county planning agency, and county health department, if one exists, notice of intention to revise the reclamation plan for each permitted and abandoned mine site at which sludge is intended to be applied. For permitted mine sites, the above notification must also be provided to the appropriate District Mining Office of the Department's Bureau of Mining Programs. For abandoned mine sites, the above notification must also be provided to the appropriate District Office of the Department's Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation or contracting governmental agency.

For permitted mine sites, the revision process shall comply with all requirements for revising reclamation plans at permitted mine sites as promulgated by the Department's Bureau of Mining Programs at 25 Pa. Code, Sec. 77.618 and Sec. 87.155. For abandoned mine sites, the revision procedure shall be that specified in the permittee's contract with the Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation or other contracting governmental agency.

Reclamation activities may not commence on permitted mine sites unless specifically authorized by the Department's Bureau of Mining Programs. Reclamation activities may not commence on abandoned mine sites unless specifically authorized by the Department's Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation or other contracting governmental agency.

e. The application rate of sludge at a mine site shall not exceed 60 tons per acre, except when conducted under a remediation plan approved by the Department that requires a greater application rate.