

International Red River Board

Notification Protocol

Intensive Livestock Operations Proposing to Locate near the International Boundary

Manitoba - Minnesota - North Dakota

Background

Periodically, concerns have been expressed about water quality and other environmental impacts in the transboundary region between Manitoba, Minnesota, and North Dakota that arise from intensive livestock operations. The International Red River Board, at its June 2001 annual meeting, agreed to develop a formal Notification Protocol that would provide advance notice to states or provincial jurisdictions of intensive livestock operations being proposed in the transboundary region of adjacent jurisdictions.

The purpose of this Notification Protocol is to share information on issues of mutual concern and to resolve transboundary issues associated with intensive livestock operations prior to operation.

Notification Protocol

(1). Applicability

- (a). This notification protocol applies to all intensive livestock facilities proposed to locate within five (5) miles of the international boundary in Manitoba, Minnesota, or North Dakota.
- (b). This notification protocol applies to all intensive livestock facilities greater than 300 animal units. Because definitions vary slightly among the three jurisdictions of what constitutes an animal unit, the definition to be used for this Protocol in each case will be that of the originating or notifying jurisdiction.
- (c). This notification protocol applies to all new intensive livestock facilities being assessed or reviewed by each jurisdiction after July 11, 2002.

(2). Process

- (a). The Principal IRRB Contact within each state or provincial jurisdiction (identified below for purposes of this Notification Protocol) will circulate the following information to the Principal IRRB Contact within the adjacent state or provincial jurisdiction on proposed intensive livestock operations that satisfy the applicability criteria identified in (1):

- (i). all relevant information that reasonably becomes available as part of that jurisdiction's regulatory approval process, including location, size, proposed waste treatment and handling facilities, drainage patterns, etc.;
 - (ii). relevant information on that jurisdiction's expected regulatory review process including timelines, etc.;
- (b). The Principal IRRB Contact in the adjacent jurisdiction will respond as quickly as practicable upon receipt and will identify whether or not transboundary concerns have been identified along with the nature of those concerns. In cases where a detailed review is not practicable to undertake in a timely manner but where transboundary impacts appear likely, initial concerns of a general nature should be identified as quickly as possible, with more detailed comments to be subsequently provided;
- (c). The IRRB Secretaries will be provided copies of all transmittal correspondence which will include a summary of the type and number (or animal units) of livestock;
- (3). Disposition of Concerns
- (a). The originating Principal IRRB Contact will ensure that transboundary concerns have been resolved to the satisfaction of the adjacent state or province prior to construction and operation;
 - (b). In cases where resolution has not been achieved to the satisfaction of the adjacent state or province, the matter will be referred jointly to the IRRB Chairs.

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