

Melissa Schmid  
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Coalhurst, AB T0L0V0  
Legal land description: NW-23-9-22-W4  
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Natural Resource Conservation Board  
Agriculture Centre, 100, 540-1<sup>st</sup> Avenue South  
Lethbridge, AB T1J 4V6

October 20, 2021

Regarding:  
Application LA 21033-Courtesy Letter  
Double H Feeders  
NE 22-9-22W4M

Attention:  
Carina Weisbach

I am writing you regarding my concerns of the proposed expansion of Double H Feeders broiler chicken operation.

Double H Feeders has reconstructed their land over the last couple years to include two new swales through their fields to facilitate positive drainage. An overview of the demographic changes can be clearly viewed on Google Maps. Historically the Natural Resource Conservation Board (NRCB) has mandated that land owners need to conduct environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) under the Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act when a proposed project impacts the water drainage/natural drainage systems and public interest. I would like to know the compliance on this point and the proposed outcomes on the environmental impacts in relation to the already taxed natural drain.

Double H Feeders claims that it has the land base to accommodate the waste management of manure that would be accumulated with the two additional barns. Double H Feeders has a limited land base that is currently used to support manure

produced from four broiler chicken operations already. I would like to know the legal land acres required to handle the manure accumulation already in place for the current barns, plus the additional two broiler barns that are currently under application.

The Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act state the following: The primary act in Alberta through which regulatory requirements for air, water, land, and biodiversity are managed. The Act supports and promotes the protection, enhancement and wise use of the environment by designating proposed activities for which an approval or registration is required. Under this act I have environmental concerns related to the lands ability to handle the manure that is being applied, downstream effects, air quality, run off water contamination, and the environmental impacts on the eco-system that relies on the health and stability of the natural drain system.

I would like to know the outcomes for the Environmental Impact Assessment with regards to the increased demand on the land related to Double H Feeders proposed expansion for two large broiler chicken barns and what the environmental impacts would indicate if this project is approved.

Furthermore Double H Feeders is a no-till operation and this effects the air quality and respiratory health of both family and community members. I would like to be informed of the air quality studies that have been conducted to ensure the health and safety of all community members that will be impacted by the expansion of the Double H Feeders. Research has indicated that long term exposure to poor air quality has sever impacts on respiratory exacerbations that could lead to hospitalization, increased medical complications, and even death. I have firsthand knowledge of air quality concerns because my child is medically compromised and air quality impacts her health. Double H Feeders has already compromised my family's quality of life due to recent air quality concerns. I am very concerned that the expansion of Double H Feeders additional barns will have further impact not only on my family's quality of life but long term negative environmental impacts on the land, water, and eco-systems in the surrounding area.

Lastly I am addressing the depreciation in the surrounding areas and the economic impacts this will cause for community members that may want to sell their properties. Real-estate Research shows depreciate in land values when commercial operations are developed in rural agricultural settings. From an investor or buyers perspective land depreciation can vary given the commercial/agricultural operations in the area, buildings, and age of buildings.

I am strongly opposed to the approval of Double H Feeders application to have an additional expansion approval for two large broiler chicken barns. I would like disclosure from the NRCB regarding the Environmental Impact Assessment the outlines the long term impacts on air, water, land, and biodiversity. I would also like disclosure on penalties that would be imposed if Double H Feeders is in violation of any of the NRCB processes for previous revisions made to the land/properties owned by Double H Feeders.

Thank you for your time regarding this matter. I look forward to your reply.

Sincerely:

*Melissa Schmid*

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