



Regarding Authorization LA19018A
SW 8-03-25 W4M

Water Well Monitoring Requirements

The purpose of this statement is to outline the water well monitoring requirements in Authorization LA19018A. Operating Condition #3 of Authorization LA19018a reads:

“The permit holder is to conduct water well monitoring for the two wells (water well 299134 and 293986 – the well located next to the calf barn and next to the residence) according to a water well monitoring requirement prescribed and authorized in writing by the NRCB, and to report the results. When appropriate, these requirements may be amended from time to time by the NRCB, in writing.”

The NRCB has determined the water well monitoring requirements, using results from an environmental risk screening and water well exemption screening tool conducted on July 8, 2019 for this confined feeding operation.

Although the risk screening results determined that the risk to groundwater is low, as a precautionary measure, the NRCB has determined that the water well monitoring requirements for this facility should be as follows:

Monitoring Frequency

Annually, with results submitted to the NRCB by June 30 of each year

Water Well Test Parameters

Chlorides and nitrate-nitrogen

Water Wells to be used for Monitoring

Water wells #299134 and #293986

According to Decision Summary LA19018, two water well are located within 100 m of the existing and proposed manure storage facilities (MSFs). I have confirmed this information with a site visit.

Because of this proximity, the applicant’s proposed barns conflict with a regulation under AOPA, which prohibits the construction of MSFs within 100 metres of water wells.¹ However, the regulation allows approval officers to grant an exemption from this prohibition. I must therefore consider whether an exemption is appropriate in this instance.

Based on the 2019 environmental risk screening and the water well exemption screening results, and the results of water well testing already completed at this CFO, I determined that an exemption from the 100 metre setback to these water wells is warranted on the condition that the permit holder must test the well water annually.

¹ Standards and Administration Regulation, Alta. Reg. 267/2001, section 7(1)(b).

These monitoring requirements become effective on the date of this letter and supersede any previously issued monitoring requirements at this facility.

April 23, 2024

(original signed)
Carina Weisbach
Approval Officer