

Installing RCC in your feedlot pens? You may need a permit from the NRCB— here are some things to consider

Are you thinking about installing roller compacted concrete (RCC) as a liner at your feedlot? Read on to find out whether you will need a permit under the *Agricultural Operation Practices Act (AOPA)*.

RCC as a secondary liner (over an existing liner)

If you are planning to install RCC over an existing liner for which you have a permit under AOPA (including a deemed or grandfathered permit), you do not need to apply for a new permit from the Natural Resources Conservation Board (NRCB). But be careful not to damage or modify the existing liner when installing the RCC. If damage occurs to the existing liner you should contact the NRCB as you may need to apply for a new permit. You may also wish to ask the NRCB whether your operation is grandfathered.

RCC as a primary liner (not over an existing liner)

The NRCB discourages installation of RCC as a primary liner for groundwater protection. Technical guidelines for using RCC as a primary liner are under development. Without technical guidelines in place to inform the use of RCC as an AOPA liner at a CFO, the NRCB has adopted a cautious approach. If you plan to go ahead with RCC installation as a primary liner, here's what you need to know.

1. You will need an AOPA permit.
2. You must follow the [interim guidance](#) describing the NRCB's requirements for the RCC base, design, installation, and ongoing inspection, monitoring, and repair.
3. Failure to follow this guidance may delay your permit or lead to additional costs for you.

Click here to read the NRCB's full [Interim guidance on the use of Roller Compacted Concrete \(RCC\) as a potential liner at confined feeding operations \(CFOs\)](#).

If you have already installed RCC as a primary liner and aren't sure if it meets the interim guidance, contact the NRCB and we will help bring you into compliance.

Additional considerations

Runoff

The addition of RCC, whether as a primary or a secondary liner, can have implications for runoff. More water will run off from a pen floor with RCC so you will need to demonstrate that you have sufficient surface runoff storage. This could mean that you also need to adjust the size of your catch basin(s). The NRCB can help you recalculate your runoff capacity and determine whether new permits are required

Livestock numbers

If you are planning to increase your livestock numbers after installing RCC, then you may also need to apply for a new permit. Permits for an increase in livestock numbers would likely involve public notification and the NRCB would send letters to your neighbours inviting them to submit responses.

The above information details situations where the installation of RCC can have consequences for your CFO permit. If you have questions, please contact an NRCB approval officer or inspector at your nearest regional office.

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