

**AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES**  
**Department of Environmental Conservation**  
**1 National Life Drive, Main 2**  
**Montpelier, VT 05620-3521**

**DRAFT**  
**INDIRECT DISCHARGE PERMIT**

Permit No.: ID-9-0303  
PIN: WY11-0001

**SECTION A – “ADMINISTRATION”**

In compliance with provisions of 10 V.S.A. §1263, and in accordance with the following conditions, the permittees:

National Fish & Seafood, Inc. 11-15 Parker Street Gloucester, MA 01930	and	Agresource, Inc. 100 Main Street Amesbury, MA 01913
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are authorized to discharge non-sewage wastewater from the National Fish & Seafood, Inc. frozen food processing facility in Gloucester, Massachusetts to anaerobic digesters located on farms in Coventry, Troy and Westminster, Vermont. The farms are identified in Attachment A. The wastewater/manure mixture is to be managed in accordance with Accepted Agricultural Practices.

A1. Permit Summary:

Expiration Date	March 31, 2021
Type of Waste	Air Flotation Wastewater from Fish Processing Plant
Disposal System	Discharge of wastewater into anaerobic digesters with manure followed by land application of resulting digestate in accordance with Accepted Agricultural Practices
Locations of Disposal	Coventry, Troy and Westminster, Vermont
Maximum Disposal Volume	416,000 gallons per year (average of 8,000 gallons per week)

A2. Compliance Schedule:

The following schedule summarizes the actions and requirements necessary for compliance with the conditions of this permit. The permittees shall complete the requirements in accordance with the dates indicated. See the designated section for specific details.

<u>Condition # &amp; Description</u>	<u>Schedule Date</u>
A3. Apply for renewal of Indirect Discharge Permit	December 31, 2020
C3. Large Farm Operation Permit or Permit Amendments	Prior to Disposal
D1. Wastewater Sampling and Submittal of Results	Semi-Annually
D2. Submit report to the Secretary	Monthly
D3. Maintain Daily Journal	As Specified

A3. Expiration Date:

This permit, unless revoked or amended shall be valid until March 31, 2021 despite any intervening change in Water Quality Standards. Renewal of this Indirect Discharge Permit will be subject to all rules applicable at the time of application for renewal, including biological standards to determine significant alteration of aquatic biota.

The permittees shall apply for an Indirect Discharge Permit renewal by December 31, 2020. For the purposes of Title 3, an application for renewal of this indirect discharge permit will be considered timely if a complete application is received by the expiration date.

A4. Effective Date:

This permit becomes effective on the date of signature.

A5. Revocation:

The Secretary may revoke this permit in accordance with 10 V.S.A. §1267.

A6. Transfer of Permit:

This permit is not transferable without prior written approval of the Secretary. The permittees shall notify the Secretary immediately, in writing, before any sale, lease or other transfer of ownership of the property from which the permitted discharge originates. The proposed transferee shall make application for a permit to be reissued in their name. Failure to apply shall be considered a violation of this permit. Responsibility for compliance with the conditions of this permit shall be the burden of the permittee until such time as transfer of the permit to the transferee is complete. All application and operating fees must be paid in full prior to transfer of this permit. This permit shall be transferred only upon showing by the permittee or proposed transferee of compliance with the following conditions:

- a. The transferee shall be a legal entity, financially and technically competent to operate, inspect, maintain and replace the system.
- b. The transferee shall demonstrate that they have the legal authority to raise revenues for the proper operation, inspection, and maintenance of the system.
- c. The transferee shall provide a written agreement containing a specific date for transfer of permit responsibility, coverage, and liability between the current and new permittees to the Secretary.

A7. Minor Modifications of Permit:

The Secretary may modify this permit without requiring a permit application, a public notice, or a public hearing to correct typographical errors or increase the frequency of monitoring or reporting in accordance with Condition D(4) of this permit.

A8. Indirect Discharge Rules:

This indirect discharge was reviewed and qualified for an Indirect Discharge Permit in accordance with Section 14-1902(c) of the Indirect Discharge Rules.

A9. Right of the Agency to Inspect:

The permittee shall make arrangements to insure that the Secretary or the Secretary's authorized representative upon the presentation of their credentials and at reasonable times:

- a. To enter upon any fields used for disposal or to inspect any holding tanks being used as effluent disposal sites;
- b. To enter upon the premises in which any effluent source, treatment or disposal system is located or in which any records are required to be kept under the conditions of the permit;
- c. To have access to and copy any records required to be kept under conditions of this permit;
- d. To inspect any monitoring equipment or method required in this permit;
- e. To sample any discharge of waste, groundwater or surface water; and
- f. To inspect any collection, treatment, pollution management and disposal facility required by this permit.

A10. Permit Availability:

A copy of this permit shall remain at the office of the permittees and, upon request, shall be made available for inspection by the Secretary.

A11. Changes to Authorized Disposal Program:

The permittees may request to add farms with anaerobic digesters to the disposal program in accordance with following:

- a. The permittees shall submit an application for an administrative amendment of the permit to update the list of farms in Attachment A. The application must include an agreement between the permittees and the farmer(s). The agreement shall indicate the address of the farm, state that the farmer agrees to manage the wastewater/manure mixture in accordance with the Accepted Agricultural Practices, and be signed and dated by both parties.

A11. Changes to Authorized Disposal Program (continued):

- b. Farm(s) may be added to the program if they have adequate storage and nutrient loading capacity for uptake of the additional nutrients from the food processing waste. The farm(s) must receive approval from the Vermont Agency of Agriculture to accept the additional substrates.

A12. Operating Fees:

This indirect discharge is subject to operating fees. The permittees shall submit the operating fees in accordance with procedures provided by the Secretary.

**SECTION B - "INDIRECT DISCHARGE"**

B1. Nature of Indirect Discharge:

The food processing wastewater authorized for disposal by this permit consists of floatable organics generated by the cleanup of processing equipment at the National Fish & Seafood, Inc. frozen food processing plant in Gloucester, Massachusetts. The wastewater consists of floatable residual material such as small fish bits, breading, batter, vegetable bits, seasoning and vegetable oil. The wastewater will be combined with other approved substrates and manure from the farms identified in Attachment A to increase methane production in the anaerobic digesters. The resulting effluent is to be managed in accordance with the Vermont Department of Agriculture Accepted Agricultural Practices.

Based on analytical data from quarterly wastewater samples collected from National Fish & Seafood from 3/31/11 to 3/2/16, the wastewater is expected to have the following approximate concentrations:

<u>Parameter</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>Range</u>
Biochemical Oxygen Demand	mg/L	90,000 – 510,000
Chemical Oxygen Demand	mg/L	180,000 – 860,000
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen	mg/L	390 – 2,800
Total Phosphorus	mg/L	80 - 710
Potassium	mg/L	22 - 70
Chloride	mg/L	110 - 280
Sodium	mg/L	110 - 340
pH	S.U.	3.39 – 4.11

These are not permit limits and exceedences of these values may occur.

B2. Chemicals Utilized:

The permittees previously submitted a list of chemicals which are used at the National Fish & Seafood processing facility for the purpose of cleaning equipment. These are the only chemicals authorized for disposal in the wastewater which is to be accepted at the farms identified in Attachment A. Prior to making any changes in the chemicals used, the permittees shall submit a request for evaluation of the new chemicals to the Secretary. If the Secretary determines that the change in chemicals is a significant change, the permittees shall be required to apply for a permit amendment. Minor changes in chemicals used, as determined by the Secretary, will not require permit amendment. For those chemicals which are obtained from a different supplier or source and are identical to the chemicals listed in the application, the permittees shall notify the Secretary of the change; no evaluation will be necessary.

**SECTION C - "SYSTEM OPERATION"**

C1. General:

The wastewater shall be handled at all times in a manner that will (1) not permit the surface runoff of wastewater to waters of the State, (2) not result in a violation of the Vermont Water Quality Standards, or (3) not result in a violation of any condition of a large farm operation permit or permit amendment issued by the Vermont Agency of Agriculture.

C2. Limits on Disposal:

This permit authorizes only the discharge of air flotation wastewater generated by the cleaning of food processing equipment at the National Fish & Seafood, Inc. facility in Gloucester, Massachusetts to the farms identified in Attachment A. The annual disposal limit at the three farms, cumulatively, is 416,000 gallons in any calendar year. The weekly, monthly or annual disposal limit at each farm shall be in accordance with any large farm permit or permit amendment issued by the Vermont Agency of Agriculture.

C3. Large Farm Operation Permit Amendments:

The permittees shall not dispose of air flotation wastewater from National Fish & Seafood at any farm identified in Attachment A unless the farm has received a large farm operation permit or permit amendment from the Vermont Agency of Agriculture authorizing such disposal at the farm.

**SECTION D - "MONITORING"**

D1. Monitoring Requirements:

Upon the effective date of this permit, the permittees shall sample and analyze the wastewater as follows:

<u>Parameter</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>Sample Type</u>	<u>Sample Frequency</u>
Total Solids (TS)	%	grab	Semi-Annually
Total Volatile Solids (TVS)	% of TS	grab	Semi-Annually
Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD)	mg/l	grab	Semi-Annually
Sodium (Na+)	mg/L	grab	Semi-Annually
Chloride (Cl-)	mg/L	grab	Semi-Annually
Total Phosphorus (TP)	mg/L	grab	Semi-Annually
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen (TKN)	mg/L	grab	Semi-Annually
Total Potassium (K)	mg/L	grab	Semi-Annually
pH	S.U.	grab	Semi-Annually

Semi-annual periods are January – June and July – December. If any disposal of wastewater occurs in a semi-annual period, a sample is required to be collected during that period and analyzed. Representative samples shall be taken from the wastewater holding tank at National Fish & Seafood after agitation of the contents of the tank.

The results of the analysis shall be submitted to the Secretary by the 15th day of the second month following the date of sampling.

The laboratory utilized for analyzing the samples shall demonstrate successful performance for U.S. EPA check samples for all parameters and shall analyze any check samples provided by the Secretary. Failure to obtain an acceptable result for either the Secretary or EPA check samples may be a basis for requiring an alternate analytical laboratory.

D2. Monthly Disposal Report:

On a monthly basis, the permittees shall submit a written report to the Secretary listing the daily volume in gallons of wastewater discharged to the farms and the dates the disposal occurred. The report shall be signed by the permittees under the following certification language:

D2. Monthly Disposal Report (continued):

“I certify under penalty of law that I have personally examined, and am familiar with, the information submitted herein. Based on my inquiry of those individuals immediately responsible for obtaining the information, I believe the submitted information is true, accurate and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fines and imprisonment.”

The reports shall be submitted by the 15th day of the month following the date of disposal.

D3. Daily Journal:

The permittees shall maintain a bound, daily journal at the National Fish & Seafood, Inc. processing facility for documenting the volume of wastewater transported to the farms identified in Attachment A. The journal shall have printed pre-numbered pages. For each load transported to the farms identified in Attachment A, facility personnel shall enter in ink their name (signature), the date and the volume shipped.

The journal shall be made available for inspection by the Secretary. Upon request of the Secretary, the permittee shall photocopy daily entries for submission to the Secretary.

D4. Other Water Quality Monitoring:

No other water quality monitoring of the system is required under this permit. However, the Secretary reserves the right to require additional monitoring of the system in accordance with Condition A(7) should operation of the system fail to meet the requirements of Condition C(1).



**SECTION E - "COMPLIANCE REVIEW"**

If the results of any monitoring or reporting indicate that there is a possibility that the Vermont Water Quality Standards may be violated, the Secretary may require monitoring of the ground and surface water. If continued monitoring and analysis indicates that a violation of the wastewater discharge rate or a violation of the Vermont Water Quality Standards has occurred, is occurring, or is likely to occur, the Secretary may require the permittees to take appropriate corrective actions to eliminate or reduce the possibility of a violation.

The issuance of this Indirect Discharge Permit, ID-9-0303, to National Fish & Seafood, Inc. and Agresource, Inc. by the Secretary relies upon the data, designs, judgment and other information supplied by the applicant, the applicant's consultants and other experts who have participated in the preparation of the application. The Secretary makes no assurance that this system will meet the performance objectives of the applicant and no warranties or guarantees are given or implied.

**SECTION F - "EFFECTIVE DATE"**

This Indirect Discharge Permit, ID-9-0303, issued to National Fish & Seafood, Inc. and Agresource, Inc. for the discharge of air flotation wastewater from the National Fish & Seafood, Inc. frozen food processing plant in Gloucester, Massachusetts to the farms listed in Attachment A, is effective on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of June, 2016.

Alyssa B. Schuren, Commissioner  
Department of Environmental Conservation

By:     DRAFT      
\_\_\_\_\_, Director  
Drinking Water and Groundwater Protection Division

ATTACHMENT A

Vermont Farms Approved for Disposal of Air Flotation  
Wastewater from National Fish & Seafood, Inc.

April, 2016

<b>Farm</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Annual Disposal Limits (all substrates)</b>
Neighborhood Farm	213 Maxwell Road Coventry, Vermont	In accordance with LFO permit #2000-02, as amended
Westminster Farms, Inc.	4187 US Route 5 Westminster, Vermont	In accordance with LFO permit #2001-04, as amended
Chaput Family Farms	2473 Route 105 E. North Troy, Vermont	In accordance with LFO permit #97-01-A2

**Note:** The annual disposal limit for air flotation wastewater from National Fish & Seafood, Inc. at the three farms listed above, combined, is 416,000 gallons per year. The permittees shall also comply with any weekly, monthly or annual disposal limit specified in a large farm operation permit or permit amendment issued by the Vermont Agency of Agriculture.