

**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-9-0308
PIN: EJ95-0450

SECTION A – “ADMINISTRATION”

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

Plumrose USA, Inc.
14 Jonergin Drive
Swanton, VT 05488

is authorized to discharge non-sewage wastewater from the Plumrose USA, Inc. food processing facility in Swanton, Vermont to anaerobic digesters located on farms in St. Albans town and Berkshire, Vermont. The farms are identified in Attachment A. The post-digester wastewater/manure mixture is expected to be managed in accordance with Vermont Agency of Agriculture’s Required Agricultural Practices. This is a permit renewal.

A1. Permit Summary:

Expiration Date:	March 31, 2022
Type of Waste:	Oil & grease wastewater from cooking and preparation of barbecue ribs
Disposal System:	Discharge of wastewater into anaerobic digester(s) followed by land application of resulting digestate in accordance with Required Agricultural Practices
Locations of Disposal:	St. Albans town and Berkshire, Vermont
Disposal Volume:	624,000 gallons per year (maximum)

A2. Compliance Schedule:

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

<u>Condition # & Description</u>	<u>Schedule Date</u>
A3. Apply for renewal of Indirect Discharge Permit	December 31, 2021
D1. Wastewater disposal monitoring and reporting	Semi-Annually
D2. Submit report to the Secretary	Monthly
D5. Other monitoring/testing required	As Specified

A3. Expiration Date:

This permit, unless revoked or amended shall be valid until March 31, 2022 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 permittee shall apply for an Indirect Discharge Permit renewal by December 31, 2021 for continued authorization to discharge wastewater to the farms identified in Attachment A. 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 April 1, 2017.

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 permittee 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(5) 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 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 facilities required by this permit.

A10. Permit Availability:

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

A11. Additions to Disposal Program:

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

- a. The permittee shall apply for a permit amendment to add farm digesters to the disposal program. The application must include an agreement between the permittee and the farmer(s). The agreement shall include estimated volumes to be delivered to the farm(s) on a weekly or annual basis, the frequency of the deliveries, state that the farmer agrees to manage the wastewater/manure mixture in accordance with Required Agricultural Practices, and be signed and dated by both parties.

A11. Additions to Disposal Program (continued):

- b. Farm digesters may be added to the disposal program if the farm has adequate storage capacity and sufficient land associated with the farm for the uptake of the additional nutrients from the food processing waste. Large and medium farm operations may need to update their nutrient management plans and receive approval from the Vermont Agency of Agriculture to be approved as a disposal location.

A12. Operating Fees:

This indirect discharge is subject to operating fees. The permittee 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 oil & grease wastewater generated by the cooking and preparation of barbecue ribs at the Plumrose USA, Inc. food processing facility in Swanton, Vermont. This wastewater does not include washwater generated from the cleaning of equipment, which is approved to be discharged to the Swanton municipal treatment facility. The oil & grease wastewater is transported to the farm(s) identified in Attachment A and added to the manure in the farm(s) anaerobic digester. The resulting digestate is expected to be managed in accordance with the Vermont Department of Agriculture Required Agricultural Practices.

Based on analytical data from wastewater samples collected from Plumrose USA, Inc., the oil & grease wastewater is expected to have the following approximate concentrations:

<u>Parameter</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>Mean</u>	<u>Range of Concentrations</u>
Biochemical Oxygen Demand	mg/L	27,211	9,000 – 49,000
Chemical Oxygen Demand	mg/L	42,158	10,000 – 110,000
Total Nitrogen	mg/L	2,260	960 – 3,100
Total Phosphorus	mg/L	800	370 – 1,300
Chloride	mg/L	3,732	1,500 – 6,100
Sodium	mg/L	3,183	1,200 – 4,700
pH	S.U.	6.18	5.80 – 6.46

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

B2. Chemicals Utilized:

The permittee previously submitted a list of chemicals which are used at the facility which could potentially be found in the oil & grease wastewater. One of the chemicals is used as a deodorizer in the collection pit while the other chemicals are used for cleaning purposes and would only be potentially found in the washwater grease trap. 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 permittee 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 permittee 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 permittee shall notify the Secretary of the change but 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 permit issued by the Vermont Agency of Agriculture.

C2. Limits on Disposal:

This permit authorizes only the discharge of oil & grease wastewater generated by the cooking and preparation of barbecue ribs at the Plumrose USA, Inc. food processing facility in Swanton, Vermont to the farms identified in Attachment A at a total maximum disposal volume of 624,000 gallons in any calendar year. The maximum disposal volume may be subject to further restriction by storage and/or nutrient loading limits in accordance with permits or permit amendments issued to the farm(s) by the Vermont Agency of Agriculture.

SECTION D - "MONITORING"

D1. Monitoring Requirements:

Upon the effective date of this permit, the permittee shall sample and analyze the oil & grease wastewater as follows:

<u>Parameter</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>Sample Type</u>	<u>Sample Frequency</u>
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD ₅)	mg/L	grab	Semi-Annual
Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD)	mg/l	grab	Semi-Annual
Sodium (Na+)	mg/L	grab	Semi-Annual
Chloride (Cl-)	mg/L	grab	Semi-Annual
Total Phosphorus (TP)	mg/L	grab	Semi-Annual
Total Nitrogen (TN)	mg/L	grab	Semi-Annual
pH	S.U.	grab	Semi-Annual

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 and analyzed. Samples shall be taken from the oil & grease holding tank 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.

D2. Monthly Disposal Report:

On a monthly basis, the permittee shall submit a written report to the Secretary listing the daily volume in gallons of oil & grease wastewater discharged to the farm(s) and the dates the disposal occurred. The report shall be signed by the permittee under the following certification language:

“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 permittee shall maintain a bound, daily journal at the Plumrose USA, Inc. processing facility for documenting the volume of oil & grease wastewater transported to the farm(s) identified in Attachment A. The journal shall have printed pre-numbered pages. For each load transported to the farm(s), 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. Sampling and Testing Procedures:

All wastewater sampling, preservation, handling and test procedures used to comply with the monitoring requirements herein shall conform to procedures specified in the most current edition of Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater APHA - AWWA - WPCF, and the Vermont Water Quality Standards unless written approval of an alternate method is received from the Agency.

The laboratory utilized for analyzing the samples shall demonstrate successful participation in third party proficiency testing recognized by ISO or NELAP for all parameters and shall analyze any check sample provided by the Secretary. Failure to obtain an acceptable result for either the Secretary's check sample or successful third party proficiency testing may be a basis for requiring an alternate analytical laboratory.

D5. 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(8) should operation of the system fail to meet the requirements of Sections C(1) and C(2).

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 permittee to take appropriate corrective actions to eliminate or reduce the possibility of a violation.

The issuance of this Indirect Discharge Permit, ID-9-0308, to Plumrose USA, 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-9-0308, issued to Plumrose USA, Inc. for the discharge of oil & grease wastewater from the Plumrose USA, Inc. food processing facility in Swanton, Vermont to the farms identified in Attachment A is effective on April 1, 2017.

Joanna Pallito, Commissioner
Department of Environmental Conservation

By _____ **DRAFT** _____ Date: _____
Bryan Redmond, Director
Drinking Water and Groundwater Protection Division

ATTACHMENT A

Vermont Farms Approved for Disposal of Oil & Grease Wastewater from Plumrose USA, Inc.

April 1, 2017

Farm/Owner	Location	Disposal Limits ¹
Nelson Boys Farm	371 Montagne Road, St. Albans Town, Vermont	As determined by the Agency of Agriculture Food & Markets; farm must operate in accordance with General Permit for Medium Farm Operations
Pleasant Valley Farm	1546 Richford Road, Berkshire, Vermont	As determined by the Agency of Agriculture Food & Markets; farm must operate in accordance with LFO Permit #2000-01, as amended

Note 1: The maximum volume of oil & grease wastewater permitted to be discharged to both farms is 624,000 gallons per calendar year.