



April 9, 2020

The Department of Environment and Energy (NDEE) has been following the actions taken by packing plants during the COVID-19 Pandemic. NDEE understands producers potentially could have issues with hauling livestock to packing plants during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

During this period, NDEE will allow a temporary period for operations to have more livestock on site than permitted for. This period should not last past June 1, 2020. At this point, the operation should return back to its permitted head count. The NDEE will continue to evaluate the situation and extend this period if needed. If extra pen space needs to be created, it should be done in a manner that prevents discharges to waters of the state. Berms may be temporarily built to direct water onto fields or pastures. Extra pens can be created within the operation's containment. No pits can be built during this time.

If an operation needs to increase head count over permitted numbers, the operation needs to communicate with the inspector for the operation's area. A map with contact information is attached to this letter.

NDEE continues to provide as much flexibility as possible during these difficult times. Please continue to call or email the Ag Section as questions arise.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jim Macy".

Jim Macy
Director