Public Hearing

The department held a public hearing from 6 to 8 p.m. on April 3, 2018, at the Warrensburg Community Center, 445 E. Gay St., Warrensburg.

The department held the hearing to understand the public’s concerns about the Valley Oaks Steak Company LLC application for a new State No-Discharge permit that authorizes the operation of a concentrated animal feeding operation (CAFO).

Valley Oaks Steak Company LLC (Valley Oaks) operates an animal feeding operation in Lone Jack. Because the current facility does not house more than 999 cows, it is considered a Class II animal feeding operation that is not subject to CAFO regulations or permit requirements. Valley Oaks applied for an operating permit for a Class IB CAFO on Aug. 31, 2017. Department staff are currently reviewing the application for completeness and compliance with the Missouri Clean Water Law and the Missouri Clean Water Commission regulations.

As required by state law, the department must promptly review operating permit applications for compliance with laws and regulations and, if met, issue the permit within 90 days of receiving a complete application.

Facility Description

Valley Oaks is proposing to construct six buildings to house up to 6,999 beef cattle on 400.7 acres in Johnson County. The covered buildings will have concrete floors with two-foot stem walls; cattle will be inside these buildings at all times. Valley Oaks also proposes to build two stack sheds as additional storage for composting manure.

Valley Oaks may apply the manure and bedding to agricultural fields as a substitute for commercial fertilizer, or may sell the manure commercially. Manure must be stored under roof and not be exposed to precipitation or stormwater runoff until it is applied as fertilizer. Valley Oaks must sample the manure for nitrogen and phosphorus content so that it is applied at agronomic rates to prevent excess runoff of nutrients. All dead cattle will be rendered off-site.

For More Information

For information about the public hearing or the Valley Oaks Steak Company LLC application, visit dnr.mo.gov/env/wpp/cafo/ or contact Greg Caldwell at 573-526-1426.

Comments may be submitted in writing by mail to the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 176, Jefferson City, MO 65102, by fax at 573-522-9920 or emailed to greg.caldwell@dnr.mo.gov.
The facility layout for the proposed operation at Valley Oak Steak Company LLC in Johnson County at 1921 W. 50 Highway, Lone Jack, is below.