

From: Peter Marykuca [peterm@rainyday.ca]
Sent: Tuesday, May 08, 2007 7:08 AM
To: Johnson, Cathy (CON)
Subject: Hog farm inspections suggested by CEC !
May 7 2007

Clean Environment Commission Hog Production Industry Review

Hog Review Chairperson

Mr. Terry Sargeant

I'm glad to hear that the CEC will be going out to investigate some hog barns in the province. I hope you make time to visit some or even all that are located in the Interlake's RM's of Armstrong, Bifrost and Fisher. Respectfully, you may want to visit these five relatively close barns near Arborg. You may want to bring along an Environment, Health Officer's just in case, you have questions and a pair of high rubber boots or a helicopter may also be a good idea as the water table around some locations are high at times.

Barn # 1 Purotone Interlake Weanlings hog barns are located on the north side of east west road # 124 and just west of north - south road # 15E about 5 miles east of # 7 Hwy, one mile south of the town Silver which is 4 miles south of Arborg on # 7 Hwy. Their prime spread fields are cattle pastures directly south and west of their operation, also have access to some surrounding alfalfa fields. I have never seen any incorporation into the soil! (Located in the RM of Armstrong.)

Barn # 2 was, Silver Ridge Hog Farms is located just south of Road 124 on # 7 Hwy (about 1/2 mile south) hidden in the bush on the west side there is a sign showing 22-21 2E next to the drive way, is has a lagoon, utilizing liquid slurry system. have been told there is a broadcast pipe line out to their spread field.(Located in the RM of Armstrong.)

Barn # 3 is located West of # 7 hwy on east west road # 124, about 5 miles is now known as Paradigm Skylake Farms which utilizes straw. (just west of two new barns that were given permission to construct last fall, you can drive by and see their proposed spread field) A gentleman made reference to this under oath at the March 8 meeting in Arborg, said they were composting. As I did drive past on May 4th /07, never notices any sizable manure composting piles. But I did noticed at some cattle farms with their large piles.(Located in the RM of Armstrong.)

Barn # 4 is located one mile south of the Malonton tower # 7 Hwy , that is south of Fraserwood, east off # 7 Hwy their surrounding spread fields again are mostly cattle pasture/muskeg. I have never seen any incorporation into the soil! (Located in the RM of Armstrong.)

Barn # 5 is Chafield south of Poplarfield east off # 17 Hwy. (Located in the RM of Armstrong)

In summary I feel that the moratorium is understandable, but there must be some logic to restrict any further pollution from producers. Why were 17 more new barns continued to be built? For the most part the RM of Armstrong is marginal land. Why anyone would allow this industry to be promoted here. Could it be the reason, these industrial barns need millions of gallons of fresh water to primarily used as flush toilets for these animals. Regardless of who said what, the facts are that absolutely nothing trumps Health clean Water and Air. The Hog Industry in Manitoba has side effects that compromise all these. The Hog Industry is contributing to pollution of land air and water ! The CEC needs to get the industry in line by having production reduced. The Environment Act has put our well, surface water and air at risk! Their manure run off is ending up in many ditches that point to Lake Winnipeg. Just what was the Act intended to do, is it really protecting our Environment and us ? Is the Environment Department hog tied when it comes to protecting our Environment ? With all the known diseases in hog slurry, some even deadly, why is even allowed to be spread on surface land, and why are dead/diseased animal parts still rendered and utilized as feed in the Agriculture Industry ? It has been suggested that the Act be challenged in Court as to it's effectiveness and purpose. No government department wants to be accountable / responsible and tackle the task to get things done. How many pigs die from disease every year ? Have any hog barns been in quarantined in Manitoba if so what are their location ? Have any diseased hogs entered into the human food chain ? Why are we still allowing rendering ? What is needed are incineration plants. I don't want to be hoodwinked into believing that rendering and composting of any kind is best either. Please be reminded as to where does the industry relate to when it comes to the Medical Clinic, this reason alone requires some serious thought and consideration as to responsibility and accountability.

Sincerely

Peter Marykuca

Box 167
Arborg MB.
204 376 2100