GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

DR. TIM BORING
DIRECTOR

November 10, 2026

Mr. Jeff Bebow
Bebow Farms
315 Prospect Avenue
Alma, MI 48801

Dear Mr. Bebow:

On October 09, 2026, I met with you to conduct a review of the siting practices at your dairy operation located in Gratiot County. This review was prompted by a complaint received through the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD), Right to Farm Program concerning odors from a manure lagoon located at 3250 Begole Road, Alma, MI. During the review, I was unable to confirm the following practices were being followed as outlined in the Site Selection and Odor Control for New and Expanding Livestock Facilities Generally Accepted Agricultural and Management Practices (GAAMPs):

- Constructed Manure Storage Facility without a Site Selection GAAMPs verification request approval from MDARD.

MDARD recommends your dairy operation develop and submit a Site Selection GAAMPs verification request to correct these issues.

MDARD recommends you contact Gratiot County Michigan State University Extension Service at 989-875-5233, Gratiot Conservation District at 989-875-3050, your local Natural Resource Conservation Service at 989-875-3900 or a private consultant for assistance.

Please submit a Verification Request or a letter of intent and implementation schedule to MDARD by December 18, 2026. For your convenience, these documents can be submitted by email to MahoneyS@Michigan.gov.

Also, at the time of the review, you indicated receiving ethanol production waste syrup and milk processing waste milk and placing these materials into your manure storage facility.

These may be considered Liquid Industrial By-products, which are regulated by the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE). You may be contacted by EGLE due to the Memorandum of Understanding between MDARD and EGLE.

If you have any questions or need any assistance, please call me at 517-930-2966.

Sincerely,

Stephen Mahoney, CCA/CPAg
Resource Analyst
Conservation and Stewardship Division

cc: Gratiot County Clerk
Arcada Township Clerk
Ms. Beth Gruden, Blue Wing Consulting
Mr. Bryan Grochowski, EGLE, MMD Lansing District
Mr. Alexander Nelson, EGLE, MMD Lansing District
Mr. Chris Clements, EGLE, MMD Lansing District