



Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor

Department of Environmental Quality

Eastern Region Bend Office

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June 3, 2024

Mr. Miff Devin
Port of Morrow
P.O. Box 200
Boardman, OR 97818

Re: Modification #3 to WPCF Permit #102325
WQ – Morrow County
Port of Morrow
WPCF Permit #102325, DEQ File #70590

Dear Mr. Devin:

The Port of Morrow operates an industrial wastewater management facility which aggregates, stores, and discharges recycled industrial wastewater effluent for land application in accordance with Water Pollution Control Facilities (WPCF) Permit #102325. In accordance with Schedule A(3) of the WPCF permit modification issued November 1, 2022, the facility must receive written approval from DEQ prior to application of wastewater or wastewater solids at any new application site listed in the permit and/or OM&M plan.

The permit was modified for a second time effective February 1, 2024 to approve an updated Operations, Monitoring, and Management (OM&M) plan for acreage expansion as part of the mutual agreement and order (MAO) corrective actions. No permit language was edited as part of the second modification.

On May 24th, 2024 the port submitted a new permit modification request for DEQ review for development of new irrigation pivots totaling approximately 721 acres for land application of wastewater within the existing boundary of Farm 5 located in Morrow County (Appendix I below). These additions are also part of the acreage expansions in the port's compliance plan measures described in the MAO. The port provided an approved zoning approval designation from Morrow County (Appendix II, below), affirming that prior approval was provided and that these circles are within the prior approved LUCS boundary. No permit language is being changed via this request, but DEQ requires the OM&M plan be updated to reflect the changes.

DEQ staff reviewed the documents submitted to support the acreage addition and conditionally approves of the development and use of the new circles provided the below conditions are met. DEQ approval of the acreage expansion is considered a minor permit modification as use of these circles are within the existing land application areas previously approved and no changes in wastewater type or uses are proposed that differ from existing operations.

Conditions of Approval:

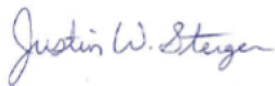
- 1) The port must revise and submit an updated OM&M plan to include the new circle numbers, acreages, and system water and nutrient balance information. The updated OM&M plan must be updated and submitted for DEQ approval prior to use of the new circles and must also include the following at minimum:
 - a. Establishment of field capacity for each circle and map of updated soil moisture sensor locations to include placement of sensors in the new fields prior to use.
 - b. Updated maps and piping system diagrams to include the new areas.
 - c. For the fields containing the Taunton, Willis, or Grayden soil series, at least one test hole must be dug where those series are mapped, to verify soil depth. For any test hole dug within those areas or other areas in the proposed fields, the depth of any restrictive layer (determined by auger refusal) encountered within 5 ft must be noted in the OM&M plan. The soil profile at and below any restrictive layers encountered must be considered to have a field capacity of 0 in/ft, and irrigation must be managed accordingly
- 2) Land application area expansion is an action identified in Section 2 of the Compliance Plan required by MAO WQ/I-ER-2021-106. The port must revise and resubmit Appendix A of the Compliance Plan (the field risk ranking document, required for each circle in the program) prior to use of the new circles, ranking each of the new fields in accordance with the previously established procedure in the document.
- 3) The facility submitted engineering design documents for the wastewater delivery infrastructure on May 17th, 2024. DEQ must approve the engineering design prior to construction and expansion to the new circles.

Please resubmit the updated draft of the OM&M plan, addressing the above conditions of approval by August 16, 2024 or sooner.

The assigned WPCF permit conditions must be adhered to at all times. All activities pertaining to the management, treatment, discharge, and disposal of all authorized wastes must be conducted in accordance with an approved OM&M Plan and any amendments to the plan approved in writing by the Department. No changes may be made in the approved OM&M Plan without written approval from the Department.

If you have any questions, I can be reached via email at Justin.Sterger@deq.oregon.gov.

Sincerely,

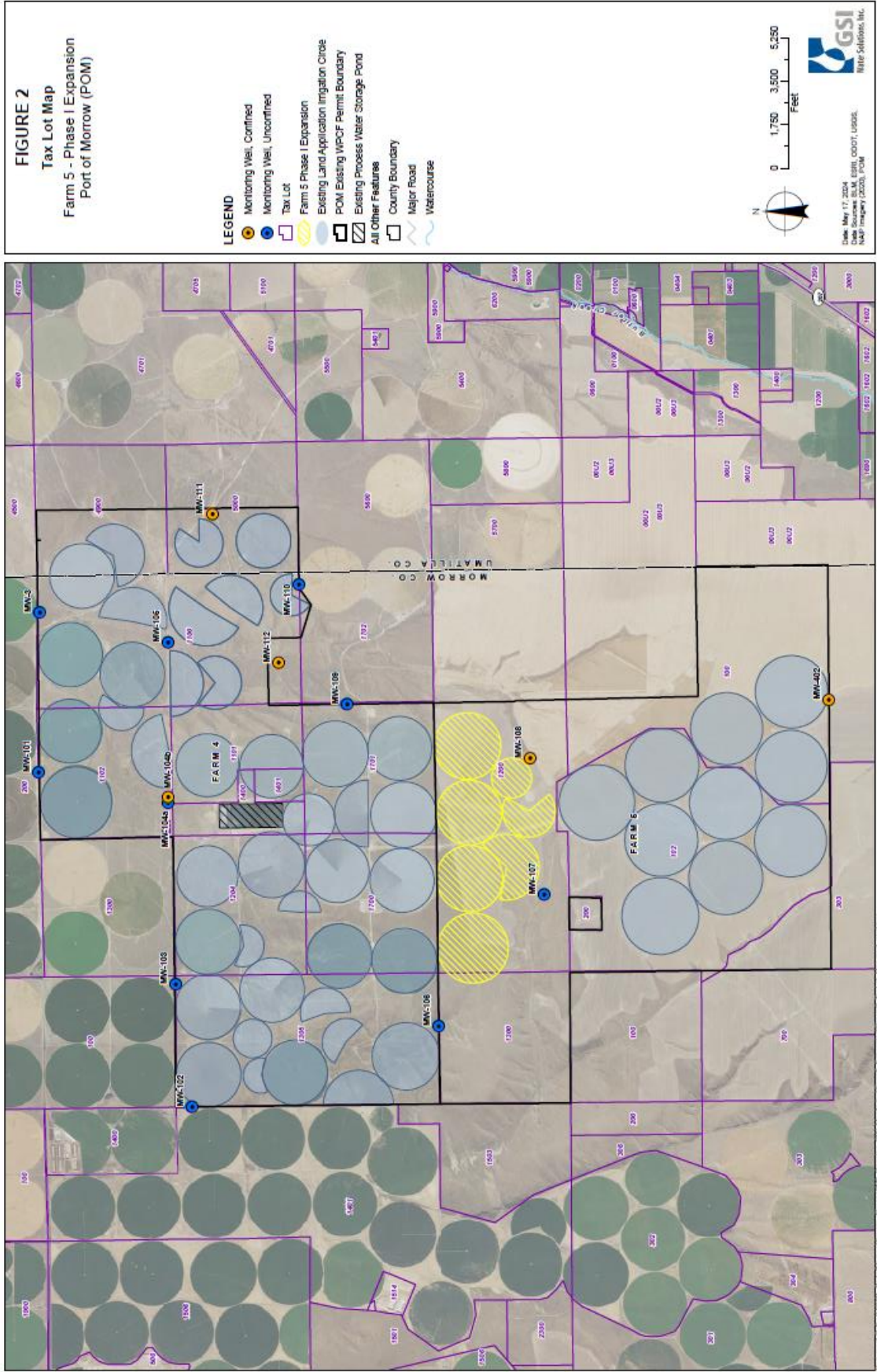


Justin W. Sterger
Senior WQ Permit Writer

ecc: Mike Hiatt, DEQ
Lisa Mittelsdorf, POM
Mark Patton, POM
Carl Makepeace, DEQ
Blair Edwards, DEQ

Table 1
Farm 5 – Phase 1 Expansion
Port of Morrow

Farm 5 - Phase 1 Expansion	
Circle	Acres
27	150
28	127.3
29	127.3
30	127.3
31	84.5
32	58.1
33	46.2
Proposed Total Acres =	
721	





PO Box 40 | Irrigon, Oregon 97844 | (541) 922-4624

April 26, 2024

Bruce Brody-Heine
GSI Water Solutions, Inc.
147 SW Shevlin Hixon Drive
Suite 201
Bend, OR 97702

Dear Bruce,

This letter is to confirm that Morrow County granted approvals to the Port of Morrow and Mader-Rust Farms (ZP #2469 in 2016, ZP #2731 in 2020) for the Land Application of Industrial Wastewater on Tax Lot 1200 of Morrow County Assessor's Map 3N 27. The property boundaries of tax lot 1200 have not been modified since the zoning permit approvals.

The configuration of the approved irrigation pivots within the site boundaries may be modified, subject to DEQ approval, without requiring additional land use approval. The owner is therefore authorized to use the aforementioned property for the Land Application of Industrial Wastewater, subject to DEQ's permitting and monitoring requirements.

This letter is not a Land Use Decision, and is not intended to authorize new uses, or the expansion of existing uses outside of the previously authorized area.

Please contact me if you have any questions. I can be reached at 541.922.4624 or by email at tmabbott@co.morrow.or.us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tamra", with a stylized flourish above it.

Tamra Mabbott, Director
Morrow County Planning Department