



Livestock Facility Siting

Overview

Wisconsin's Livestock Facility Siting Law and Rule (ATCP 51)

Wisconsin's farms and agricultural businesses generate more than \$51.5 billion in economic activity and provide jobs for 420,000 people.

Wisconsin's dairy industry, for example, pumps more than \$35,000 per minute into our state economy. To maintain our agricultural sector, we need to modernize and expand our livestock operations.

The ability to site and expand livestock operations is essential to keeping Wisconsin's agricultural economy green and growing. The livestock facility siting regulations balance local control, community oversight, environmental protection and the need for a predictable siting process.

The livestock siting law and rules establish:

- New siting standards to protect air and water (odor management, waste and nutrient management, waste storage, and runoff management);
- A predictable siting process, including a standard application and timelines; and
- A new appeals process – the Livestock Facility Siting Review Board.

Under the livestock facility siting law, local governments retain the authority to approve or deny siting and expansion requests, but must use the state siting standards when making their decisions.

The benefits of the rule include:

- A predictable process, which is critical for long-term business investments;
- The ability for local governments to plan and determine the landscape of their communities;
- A less contentious and less costly local permitting process;
- Livestock operations that meet air and water quality standards; and
- A competitive agricultural economy.

The rule became effective May 1, 2006.

For more information about the livestock facility siting program contact 608-224-4613

The siting standards **only** apply to new and expanding livestock facilities in areas that require local permits, and then **only** if they will have 500 animal units (AU) or more and expand by at least 20%*.

* (unless a lower local threshold approved prior to July 19, 2003 applies or an applicant exceeds a limit expressed in a previous permit approval).