APPLICATION FOR COMMERCIAL FARM PFAS TESTING REIMBURSEMENT

PRODUCER MUST COMPLETE ALL INFORMATION BELOW AND PROVIDE COPIES OF REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION

NAME OF PRODUCER: _____

NAME OF COMMERCIAL FARM: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

STATE: _____ ZIP: _____ PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

BUSINESS THAT PERFORMED SAMPLING (insert N/A if self-tested):

_____

IF SELF-TESTED, DID YOU FOLLOW DEP'S WATER SAMPLING GUIDANCE: ☐ YES ☐ NO

LABORATORY USED: _____

NAME OF DACF STAFF PERSON FAMILIAR WITH FARM: _____

REASON FOR CONDUCTING PFAS TESTING (i.e., history of sludge application at farm)?

_____

_____

REIMBURSEMENT AMOUNT REQUESTED: $ _____

INFORMATION THAT MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THIS APPLICATION

1. Test results from a laboratory certified by the State of Maine to perform PFAS analysis (list of certified labs available here: https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/environmental-health/dwp/cet/documents/PFASlabs_04062023.pdf). NOTE: water sampling must be affiliated with water sources for farm usage.

2. Supporting documentation of the testing expenses, including:

   a. Copies of receipts;
   b. Itemized invoices; and
   c. Proof of payment.

3. A completed State of Maine Vendor Authorization Form, available here: https://www.maine.gov/osc/sites/maine.gov.osc/files/inline-files/vendor_ME_W9v5.pdf)

I certify, under penalty of law, that the information given in this application is correct and completed to the best of my knowledge.

SIGNATURE : _____ DATE: _____

Send completed application and all required materials to: pfas.dacf@maine.gov or

PFAS Response program
Bureau of Agriculture, Food & Rural Resources
28 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0028

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Sampling Reimbursement Conditions

1. Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) records indicated a historical record of sludge or septage spreading at the farm or spreading of Class A materials[1]; or

2. The farm received feed or other inputs (e.g., manure) from a farm known to DACF to have elevated PFAS levels or DEP records indicate the inputs are from a farm that spread sludge or septage; or

3. The farm is located near[2] a location where DEP records indicate sludge or septage was spread; and

4. Lab results from a Maine-accredited and DEP-accredited laboratory.[3]

5. The Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry (DACF) reserves the right to review the invoices of third-party sampling contractors (if utilized) to assess billing rates and total charges and determine whether acceptable.

   a. DACF's experience with winter and spring soil sampling, when the ground is frozen or newly thawed, is that soil samples are extremely wet and sample results are unreliable as to accuracy. Therefore, soil sampling conducted when the soil is frozen or newly thawed will not have costs reimbursed.

6. The laboratory reimbursement amount is generally capped at a cost equal to DACF's standard rate from its contracted companies (e.g. $200-$450 per lab sample).

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1 Biosolids are divided into "Class A" and "Class B" designations based on treatment methods set by Federal and state regulations. Class A biosolids are treated to a higher pathogen kill standard than Class B.

2 "Located near" may include but not be limited to an adjacent or abutting parcel, or where the farm is downgradient from the location where historic sludge or septage spreading was permitted, or where DEP advises hydrogeological attributes may indicate the potential for contaminated groundwater to impact the non-spread farm.

3 Based on producer feedback, DACF will no longer require that the self-tested sample results meeting the criteria listed above exceed state levels for PFAS in drinking water, beef, milk, or the CDC's crop specific soil screening levels.