



## DETAILS

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Confined Feeding Operation (CFO) Application in the Pigeon Lake Watershed  
Application RA21045 - Greg Thalen and G&S Cattle Ltd.  
Location: Wetaskiwin County

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### **Confined Feeding Operation – Update for Municipalities**

April 6, 2022 - Pigeon Lake Watershed Association responded to the Natural Resource Conservation Board regarding Application RA21045 for a proposed confined feeding operation in the watershed. PLWA submission included: [Statement of Concern](#), [CFO Adverse Effects Background Report](#) and 340 Statements of Concern from Residents.

PLWA has updated our website to provide information for concerned watershed residents. Please share this link with residents: <https://www.plwa.ca/content/response-to-a-confined-feeding-operation>

### **Community Engagement**

The notice of the CFO application was published in the Pipestone Flyer on March 10. Since that time PLWA staff has set up an interactive web portal and has been meeting with lake residents and nearby farm operators to learn more about their concerns, provide information, and support submissions. PLWA has kept our members and partner municipalities informed and shared information through email and our social channels. The PLWA has engaged with a range of experts including the Environmental Law Center, a riparian health specialist, a water quality expert, and agricultural producers. We have also provided information to affected organizations including Alberta Conservation Association, Alberta Fish and Game Association and referral agencies. All this awareness and engagement has promoted many summer villages and lake residents to submit their own statements of concern to the Natural Resources Conservation Board (NRCB). We believe that the volume of response has been quite extraordinary for the NRCB.

The PLWA is extremely grateful for all those individuals and municipal councils that spent time and made their voices heard. Thank you!

### **What happens next?**

The decision to approve or not is in the hands of the NRCB staff who will evaluate the proposed CFO in relation to the statements of concern. That decision will be posted on the NRCB website. Parties who provided submissions will receive a copy of the decision. All parties will have 15 working days to submit a request for review to the NRCB Board if they wish to appeal the decision. According to a representative from the NRCB, appeals are common because either side may make an appeal depending on the decision. To prepare, PLWA is consulting with a lawyer to better understand the process and determine the legal options and resources that will be needed for an NRCB appeal.

This process has brought this community together around the goals of the Pigeon Lake Watershed Management Plan. Working with local producers, concerned residents and the municipalities has generated considerable momentum. PLWA is collaborating with concerned watershed residents and will share updates as we have more information. We hope that all concerned parties will continue to work together for a healthy watershed, healthy lake and healthy community.