



# EPA CAFO Inspections

## What to Expect When the EPA Visits Your Business

Inspection Procedures  
and Common Violations



# Goals for Inspection

- Environmental Protection
- Correction of Violations - Return to Compliance
- Deterrence
- Fairness - level playing field
- Compliance Assistance



# CAFO Compliance Evaluation Inspection Opening Conference

- The inspector should.....
  - Call the State Veterinarian to inquire about disease outbreaks
  - Present credentials & explain authority to inspect the facility
  - Ask about bio-security protocols
  - Ask for a facility diagram or layout
  - Ask how many employees work at the facility & hours of operation
  - Ask how many animals are on site
  - Ask for an explanation of facility processes
  - Ask how & where manure wastes are generated and stored
  - Ask for manure application and inventory records



# Permit vs. No Permit

- Permitted Facility
  - Inspect the facility for compliance w/ permit
  - Zero discharge for large CAFO
  - Must maintain facility per permit to receive the 25 year 24 hour storm water exemption
  - Must follow NMP for waste application
- Un-Permitted Facility
  - Inspect the facility for compliance w/ CWA
  - Zero discharge for large CAFO
  - No 25 year 24 hour storm water exemption



# Common Violations –

- What we find...
  - Discharges from the feed storage areas
  - Man Made Conveyances (pipes, ditches)
  - Holding ponds full of solids & not pumped
  - NMPs not being followed (no sampling)
  - Winter feeding areas w/out vegetative cover
- What we want...
  - All process waste water controlled and managed per the permit (if applicable)
  - Maintain the facility to prevent discharges













































































# Close-Out Conference

- Review areas of concern from visual inspection and record review
- Ask for additional information regarding potential areas of concern
- Explain potential follow up
- Give facility representatives an opportunity to comment, clarify issues, ask questions, or provide additional facts
- Samples may be taken to document process waste water/manure solids discharges
- A Notice of Potential Violation (NOPV) may be issued at the end of inspection





# Inspection Report

- Inspector will write the inspection report and transmit it to the Water Program usually within 30 – 60 days
- The Water Program will assign the inspection report to a Compliance Officer for review and the Compliance Officer will determine next steps and respond to the facility



# Questions???

