



Health Care Response /COVID-19 Minnesota Fund Request Form

Please complete this form in accordance with the instructions

Agency/Program/Activity:

Minnesota Department of Agriculture, Office of Emergency Preparedness and Response

Title of Request: Animal Carcass Disposal

Date: 4/29/2020

Amount Requested: \$ 10,952,000

Request Funding Source:


Health Care Response Fund Request



COVID-19 Minnesota Fund Request

Brief Summary of Request:

Summary must be complete on this page with supporting information attached.

Due to the closing of meat processing plants both in MN and SD because of COVID19, we are seeing a large volume of livestock animals that must be euthanized and disposed of. This creates a human and environmental health hazard that we must manage to protect Minnesotans and their communities.

The Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) has a contract with West Central Environmental Consultants (WCEC) out of Morris, Minnesota for emergency services and they have been a reliable partner in past events such as the 2015 outbreak of High Path Avian Influenza (HPAI). We asked them to develop a cost estimate for a regional depopulation and disposal site and we've included their numbers below.

We'd like to start with the first regional site near the JBS plant in Worthington and are currently in contact with Nobles County and nearby counties to discuss any available land they may have for composting. Once we have this site up and running, we'd like to set up other regional sites to help with other area farmers. The breakdown of costs is for ONE regional site and does NOT include depopulation costs.

For the disposal of 100,000 pigs, WCEC will need 20 acres to allow for staging – that includes traffic/equipment, carbon sources, carcass staging, and site security. 180 acres will be needed for compost rows and does not include spacing between the rows. The acres for composting could be split amongst sites, if necessary.

Daily Breakdown

167 pigs per hour

16 hour days = 2,672 pigs per day

40 semis of wood chips per day @\$1,250

\$50,000

500 gallons of fuel/maintenance

\$1,500

2 site managers

\$2,500

2 loaders and 2 skids with operators

\$15,000

Roto chopper with operator

\$5,000

Total per day

\$74,000

WCEC estimates this will take 37 days to complete disposal of this volume of pigs. The total for ONE regional site would come to \$2,738,000. We'd like to have enough for the potential of multiple Roto Choppers at some sites and do at least four sites around the state. The time lines and volumes will vary and there will likely be the need for help with depopulation and for other species, particularly turkeys. Our ask is for \$10,952,000 out of the COVID-19 relief fund to help with this effort.

DocuSigned by:

Andrea Vaubel

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Department Head Signature

5/1/2020

Date