

Technical Notes for Ken Johnson

January 10, 1999

Ken Johnson came into the office and asked about the status of EQIP monies on an existing dairy in the valley. I told him that the project had been dropped at the request of the owner. He wanted to see the plans that we had worked up. I told him that we could not do that because of the freedom of information act. Ken is planning to buy the existing operation and plans to build a milk processing plant to process his own milk. I told him that I would need a letter from the county planning commission stating the current status of the project. I told him I would provide information in the case file if their minutes were adequate to support his plans for purchasing the existing dairy and for building of the milk processing plant.

February, 1999

Ken provided a copy of the county planning commission minutes. They showed his plan for purchasing the dairy and approval for Ken's request with several stipulations noted. I gave him copies of the information in the plan folder.

April 12,2000

Ken provided us with a copy of the conditional use permit for the planned dairy expansion and milk processions and bottling plant and asked us to proceed with final planning of the project.

May 30, 2000

I talked with Ken about the size of the manure spreader and the size and location of the fields that he will be applying the manure on. He told me that he has 97 acres to apply manure to. There are eight acres of alfalfa and eighty-nine acres of corn. I also talked with him about building a diversion on the eastside of the facility to divert clean water that now comes down through the dairy and enters into the feedlot area. I spent the rest of the day working on a nutrient budget to determine the correct amounts of manure to apply to each field and to see how much land is needed to apply it to properly. Need to have Ken take soil tests on the land that is going to have the manure applied to it. Ken is planning to build a milk processing plant as well as storage structures to contain the solid and liquid manure created by the operation.

May 31,2000

Calculations for both the solid and liquid amounts of manure show that Ken needs at least another 300 acres to apply the manure to (See Manure Balance calculations). I need to discuss other options with him to ensure that he has enough land to adequately apply the manure to avoid problems with phosphorus buildup and groundwater contamination. Some of the options are composting and leasing land from his neighbors to apply the manure to or getting permission to spread manure on neighbors land. I also ran UMARI on Ken's fields to see what the risks of application of manure are on them. The risk came out as low

June 15, 2000

I called to see if I could get the area agronomist to come up and help clear up some problems that have been encountered. We suggested to Ken that it could be worthwhile to look into a composting operation. He has thought that this is a good idea and has already picked out a place to put the compost pad. Our engineer showed him the designs that have been completed for the liquid manure pond and solid storage area. The engineer is going to talk to another specialist to find out if an aerobic lagoon will work in this area. We still need to find out if the liquid storage area is too close to the canal. Ken told us that he has clearance to install a bridge across the canal in order to move the fresh manure to the composting area. We also informed him that we are in need of soil samples for all of the fields he will be apply manure on. Everything has been planned to accommodate 120 day storage as well as liquid from the milk processing plant.

July 5, 2000

Ken came in to see if I have heard any thing on the soil sample results. I told him that I have not but will contact the lab to see when they will be done. Ken also told me that he had begun construction on the solids structure and asked if I would go out and look at it.

July 6, 2000

The area agronomist came today to help me with the CNMP. We got the irrigation water management plan worked out with the help of the technician. I also got the soil sample results from USU and found out that he has 153 ppm of phosphorus on his land. This means that he cannot apply manure on these fields until the phosphorus levels are lower. We will have to allow the liquids to be applied on the land to the west until the phosphorus levels are reduced. The solid manure will have to be composted and hauled off site.

July 7, 2000

The engineer and I met with Ken to tell him that he cannot apply solid manure until the phosphorus levels on his land are below 100 ppm. He was not too happy with us. He told us that when he sampled that he sampled from the first 5-7 inches. We told him that he should sample to a depth of 12 inches. We told him that a deeper sample would probably lower the results of the test somewhat. This may lower the soil test phosphours, but probably not enough to get it below the 100 ppm level. We also saw that he had poured some of the solid manure structure. It meets NRCS standards and specs.

July 10, 2000

The technician and I went out to survey the composting site. We found that the site does not have enough slope to drain properly but does have enough area for the compost operation. The site will have to be about 3 acres in size (See calculations).

July 17, 2000

I took the ARDL people to see Ken's operation. They had a few questions but indicated that if Ken could provide the proper collateral for the loan that they would give it to him.

July 19, 2000

Met with the state agronomist to talk about the CNMP for Ken. With a little revision of the plan it is now ready to take to the board for approval. The engineer has set an appointment with DEQ, the state hydrologist, and the SCD board members to go over the plan, on site, with Ken. It is hoped that we can get approval for the plan to proceed forward.

July 31, 2000

I had the area and state agronomist review the plan to make sure it was ok. They had me make a few changes to ensure that everything was adequately addressed.

August 3, 2000

Met with DEQ and the SCD board to go over the CNMP for the Milk Shake Dairy. After some discussion and questions for Ken, the board approved the plan and told him to proceed. Sent the ARDL application to Salt Lake that day, after the board's request for a condition use permit from the county was approved.

August 9, 2000

Met with Ken to see if he would be interested in pursuing some 319 funding. I told him that it would cover the cost of the pond as well as the pump and pipeline associated with the liquid storage structure. After the plan has been revised and all of the appropriate signatures have been obtained, I will send it to the ARDL office.

August 17, 2000

Met with Ken to get his signatures on the revision of the contract as well as to sign up for 319 monies. He has asked to receive more ARDL money if possible.

December 7, 2000

Met with Ken this morning and looked at his liquid storage pond. It is more than 90 percent complete and he wants to get paid for it. He will turn in the bills tomorrow. As I was talking with Ken, I noticed that one of his employees was spreading manure on the land that they should not have. I reminded him that he is under contract and not to spread manure until his soil test results come back lower than 100-ppm. I also talked with the district and verified that we have enough money to pay for the work that has been done. They said that there was but that there is not any more money available for Ken.