

Voluntary No Discharge Certification For animal feeding operations (AFO)

This is a voluntary certification that there is no point-source discharge for an AFO, regardless of how many animals are housed at the facility. This voluntary certification allows the owner or operator of an AFO to certify that a Kentucky Pollution Discharge Elimination System (KPDES) permit is not required. However, submitting this certification does not release an AFO that has a liquid animal manure waste handling system from the requirement to obtain a Kentucky No Discharge Operating Permit [KNDOP (AFO) permit].

◆ Note, there is no fact sheet or permit for this program; this is only a certification program providing the opportunity for the owner or operator of an AFO to certify that a KPDES permit is not required for the AFO.

▶ [Certification - Word - KPDES Form ND-CAFO](#)

▶ [Certification - pdf - KPDES Form ND-CAFO](#)

▪ **Guidance:**

Additional Details – Voluntary Certification Option

Voluntary No Discharge Certification Option

- What is the incentive for an unpermitted CAFO to certify?
 - *A properly certified CAFO makes an up-front demonstration to the Director that it does not have to get a permit. In the event of a discharge from a CAFO with a valid certification, the CAFO would only be subject to liability for the unpermitted discharge, not for failure to seek permit coverage prior to the discharge.*
- What are the qualifications for the voluntary certification option?
 - *In order to properly certify under the voluntary option, a CAFO must be designed, constructed, operated and maintained for no discharge in accordance with rigorous eligibility criteria, including a technical evaluation of open manure storage structures and development and implementation of an NMP that ensures no discharge.*
 - *The CAFO also must submit a signed statement, general information about the facility, and description of eligibility. If a CAFO meets all of the eligibility and submission requirements its certification will become effective upon submission without required review by the permitting authority.*
- If a properly certified CAFO discharges, can it recertify?
 - *After a discharge from a properly certified CAFO, the CAFO can recertify if it permanently fixes the cause of the discharge and it has not previously recertified after a discharge from the same cause. The CAFO's recertification is submitted for a 30-day review.*