



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION OF SOLID & HAZARDOUS WASTE BUREAU OF PLANNING & LICENSING

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Commissioner

December 8, 2021

Autumn Sylvester, PP, Principal Planner
County of Sussex
Department of Engineering and Planning
Sussex County Administrative Center
One Spring Street
Newton, NJ 07860

Dear Ms. Sylvester:

The Department of Environmental Protection's Division of Solid and Hazardous Waste (Department) is in receipt of a request for Administrative Action to the Sussex County District Solid Waste Management Plan (County Plan) dated November 15, 2021. The request proposes an extension of the research, development, and demonstration (RD&D) project at Ag Choice, LLC (Ag Choice) located at 93 Brighton Road (Block 163, Lot 2) in the Township of Andover, for a period of five (5) years from the start of the project on July 15, 2021. The project proposes utilizing two methods of open-air composting to convert waste products into a beneficial nutrient-rich soil amendment. The waste products Ag Choice LLC's research will focus on will be composting mortalities, butcher/manufacturing meat wastes, and other food wastes. Mortalities will include roadkill, wildlife management culls, and deadstock. Food waste will include pre- and post-consumer food waste, liquids, and butcher waste.

The Department originally approved Ag Choice to conduct the RD&D project on November 17, 2020, for a one (1) year period, beginning on the date the RD&D is approved by the Bureau of Recycling and Hazardous Waste Management. Ag Choice reported that the RD&D project did not begin until July 15, 2021, which reduced the research and development time to five (5) months and that a longer time period is required to adequately assess long term environmental impacts and operational effects of the technology and process being evaluated.

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:26-6.11(b)13, the extension of an operation of a RD&D project can be accomplished via an Administrative Action. Therefore, the County Plan inclusion of the extension of the RD&D project at Ag Choice, LLC is hereby approved as an Administrative Action pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:26-6.11(f).

If you have any questions relative to this matter, please contact Dawn Slawsky of my staff at (609) 292-4393 or by e-mail at dawn.slawsky@dep.nj.gov.

Sincerely,



Dana Lawson, Environmental Specialist 4
Bureau of Planning and Licensing

