

AMENDED ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE APPROVAL

NUMBER 5942-DTVLPY
Issue Date: June 2, 2026

Nortera Foods Inc.
583278 Hamilton Rd
Ingersoll, Ontario
N5C 3J7

Site Location: 583278 Hamilton Road
Town of Ingersoll, County of Oxford

You have applied under section 20.2 of Part II.1 of the Environmental Protection Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. E. 19 (Environmental Protection Act) for approval of:

upgrading of existing sewage Works to serve the operation of a vegetable processing facility operated by Nortera Foods Inc. at 583278 Hamilton Road, in the Town of Ingersoll, Ontario, consisting of improvements to the lagoon aeration system for the collection, treatment, and management of industrial process wastewater, including the replacement of surface aerators with a diffused air aeration system within the existing treatment lagoons, to enhance treatment performance and operational reliability, while maintaining approved treatment capacity and effluent disposal via the existing on-site spray irrigation system, with no change to the discharge location or method of disposal, consisting of the following:

PROPOSED WORKS

The proposed upgrades are limited to mechanical and process improvements within the existing lagoon footprint and include:

- Lagoon Aeration System Upgrade: Replacement of the existing mechanical surface aerators in Pond B (primary aeration lagoon) and Pond C (secondary aeration/settling lagoon) with a diffused air aeration system, including:
 - Installation of fine-bubble membrane diffusers within Pond B and the upstream portion of Pond C, with process air supplied by two new 150 hp positive displacement blowers designed to service the submerged diffusers in both ponds.

- Installation of air distribution piping and controls;
- Provision of positive-displacement air blowers operating in a lead/lag configuration to provide redundancy and reliable oxygen transfer capacity.
- The downstream portion of Pond C to continue to operate as a settling zone under quiescent conditions prior to effluent transfer to the surge tank and spray irrigation disposal system;

EXISTING WORKS

- Firewater storage wet pond located at the north-west area of the site, with a storage volume of approximately 1,500 m³ and no flow-out.
- Groundwater monitoring well BH7A, constructed at the approved location to accommodate the firewater storage pond.
- Existing sewage works for the collection and treatment of approximately 160,000 m³ of process wastewater per year from a vegetable processing plant, and disposal of effluent water for irrigation of the owner's agricultural fields as follows:
 - A Screen Chamber (Screen in Holding Pit): One (1) rotary drum scalping screen with 0.254-mm openings, housed within a screening and pumping building, discharging screened wastewater to a collection pit.
 - Collection Pit and Forcemain: One (1) approximately 2.5 m³ capacity collection pit equipped with three (3) transfer pumps, each rated at 45 L/s, conveying screened wastewater to Pond A via a 200-mm diameter forcemain. An optional 150-mm diameter by-pass line connects the forcemain to Pond C.
 - Pond A – Equalization Lagoon: An equalization pond with a total peak operating volume of approximately 11,000 m³, operated with a minimum freeboard of 0.5 m discharging to Pond B.
 - Pond B – Primary Aeration Lagoon: An aerated pond connected in series with Pond A, a maximum operating volume of 29,590 m³. Effluent is transferred to Pond C via a recirculation pump rated at 45 L/s, with an optional 150-mm recycle line to Pond A.
 - Pond C – Secondary Aeration and Settling Lagoon: An aerated secondary/settling lagoon with a maximum depth of 3.2 m and a maximum operating volume of 11,930 m³, and discharging via a 200-mm diameter gravity line to the surge tank.
 - Surge Tank and Irrigation Pump: A surge tank with a capacity of approximately 37.9 m³, equipped with an irrigation pump rated at 52 L/s to convey treated effluent to the irrigation system.
 - Spray Irrigation System: One (1) travelling agricultural irrigator approximately 219 m in length

(four sections), equipped with seventy-one (71) spray nozzles, with a maximum discharge rate of 40 L/s.

- Irrigation Disposal Field: A spray irrigation field encompassing approximately 12.5 hectares, complete with an underdrainage system draining back to Pond C via a pumping station equipped with two (2) submersible pumps with a combined capacity of 25 L/s, and a 0.3-m-high containment berm along the south and east sides of the field.
- Optional and Ancillary Works: By-pass and recirculation piping between ponds, seasonal operational controls, aeration adjustments, and all associated electrical equipment, instrumentation, piping, pumps, valves, and appurtenances required for proper operation of the sewage works.

all other controls, electrical equipment, instruments, piping, pumps, valves and appurtenances essential for the proper operation of the aforementioned sewage works;

all in accordance with the documentation and information received per the list in Schedule A.

For the purpose of this environmental compliance approval, the following definitions apply:

1. "Approval" means this entire document and any schedules attached to it, and the application;
2. "BOD5" means total five day biochemical oxygen demand 2. (non-inhibited);
3. "Director" means a person appointed by the Minister pursuant to section 5 of the EPA for the purposes of Part II.1 of the EPA;
4. "District Manager" means the District Manager of the appropriate local district office of the Ministry where the Works is geographically located;
5. "EPA" means the *Environmental Protection Act* , R.S.O. 1990, c.E.19, as amended;
6. "Ministry" means the ministry of the government of Ontario responsible for the EPA and OWRA and includes all officials, employees or other persons acting on its behalf;
7. "Owner" means Nortera Foods Inc. and its successors and assignees;
8. "Existing Works" means those portions of the sewage works previously constructed and approved under an Approval;
9. "Proposed Works" means the sewage works described in the Owner's application, this Approval, to the extent approved by this Approval;
10. "Works" means the sewage works described in the Owner's application, and this Approval.

You are hereby notified that this environmental compliance approval is issued to you subject to the terms and conditions outlined below:

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. The Owner shall ensure that any person authorized to carry out work on or operate any aspect of the Works is notified of this Approval and the terms and conditions herein and shall take all reasonable measures to ensure any such person complies with the same.
2. The Owner shall design, construct, operate and maintain the Works in accordance with the conditions of this Approval.
3. Where there is a conflict between a provision of any document referred to in this Approval and the conditions of this Approval, the conditions in this Approval shall take precedence.

2. EXPIRY OF APPROVAL

1. This Approval will cease to apply to those parts of the Works which have not been constructed within five (5) years of the date of this Approval.

3. CHANGE OF OWNER

1. The Owner shall notify the District Manager and the Director, in writing, of any of the following changes **within 30 days** of the change occurring:
 - a. change of address of Owner;
 - b. change of Owner, including address of new owner;
 - c. change of partners where the Owner is or at any time becomes a partnership, and a copy of the most recent declaration filed under the *Business Names Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. B.17* shall be included in the notification;
 - d. change of name of the corporation and a copy of the most current information filed under the *Corporations Information Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. C.39* shall be included in the notification.
2. In the event of any change in ownership of the Works, other than a change to a successor municipality, the Owner shall notify in writing the succeeding owner of the existence of this Approval, and a copy of such notice shall be forwarded to the District Manager and the Director.

3. The Owner shall ensure that all communications made pursuant to this condition refer to the number of this Approval.

4. CHANGES IN PROCESS OR PROCESS MATERIALS

1. The Owner shall give written notice to the District Manager of any plans to change the processes or process materials in the Owner's enterprise serviced by the Works where the change may significantly alter the quantity or quality of the influent to or effluent from the Works, and no such change(s) shall be made unless with the written concurrence or approval of the District Manager.

5. OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

1. The Owner shall ensure that, at all times, the Works and the related equipment and appurtenances used to achieve compliance with this Approval are properly operated and maintained. Proper operation and maintenance shall include effective performance, adequate staffing and training, including training in all procedures and other requirements of this Approval and the OWRA and relevant regulations made under the OWRA, process controls and alarms and the use of process chemicals and other substances used in the Works.
2. The Owner shall prepare an operations manual within **six (6) months** of issuance of the Approval, that includes, but not necessarily limited to, the following information:
 - a. operating procedures for routine operation of all the Works;
 - b. inspection programs, including frequency of inspection, for the Works and the methods or tests employed to detect when maintenance is necessary;
 - c. repair and maintenance programs, including the frequency of repair and maintenance for the Works;
 - d. copies of maintenance contracts for any routine inspections & pump-outs should be included for all the tanks and treatment units;
 - e. procedures for the inspection and calibration of monitoring equipment;
 - f. a spill prevention control and countermeasures plan, consisting of contingency plans and procedures for dealing with equipment breakdowns, potential spills and any other abnormal situations, including notification of the Spills Action Centre and District Manager; and
 - g. procedures for receiving, responding and recording public complaints, including recording any follow-up actions taken.
3. The Owner shall maintain an up to date operations manual and make the manual readily

accessible for reference at the Works for the operational life of the Works. Upon request, the Owner shall make the manual available to Ministry staff.

4. The Owner shall ensure that the operation's personnel possess the level of training and experience sufficient to allow safe and environmentally sound operation of the Works.
5. The Owner shall maintain a logbook to record the results of all inspections, repair and maintenance undertaken, calibrations, monitoring and spill response or contingency measures undertaken and shall make the logbook available for inspection by Ministry staff. The logbook shall include the following:
 - a. the name of the operator making the entry; and
 - b. the date and results of each inspection, repair, maintenance, calibration, monitoring, spill response and contingency measure.
6. The Owner shall, upon the construction, prepare and make available for inspection by Ministry staff, a maintenance agreement with the manufacturer for the treatment process/technology. The maintenance agreement must be retained at the site and kept current for the operational life of the Works.

6. EFFLUENT DISPOSAL SYSTEM

The Owner shall ensure that the disposal of effluent is operated such that:

1. the disposal of effluent is via spray irrigation and effluent is applied only on the irrigation disposal field, (on grown up grasses only, not for any human/animal consumption but for mixing with field soil for nutrient augmentation for the irrigation field) as identified on Figure 1 of the Revised Supplemental Design Brief prepared by Earl Shannon of Conestoga-Rovers & Associates, dated July 21, 2009.
2. no spray irrigation is to take place:
 - a. on frozen ground or between December 15 and March 15th of any calendar year;
 - b. with aerosol drift off the property or causing surface ponding;
 - c. within 150 metres of Hamilton Road;
 - d. at a rate greater than 2050 cubic metres in a 24 hour period (159 m³/ha/day); and
 - e. within 24 hours after a rainfall event exceeding 10 mm.
3. any water accumulating in the ditch on the west side of the irrigation area, to be pumped to the collection Pond A for treatment and re-irrigation;

4. discharge of treated effluent towards the intermittent stream on the south-eastern portion of the site or any other surface water receiver are not permitted under any circumstances.

7. EFFLUENT - VISUAL OBSERVATIONS

Notwithstanding any other condition in this Approval, the Owner shall ensure that the overflow, if any, from the Proposed Works (Fire Pond only) is essentially free of floating and settleable solids and does not contain oil or any other substance in amounts sufficient to create a visible film, sheen or foam on the receiving waters.

8. MONITORING AND RECORDING

1. All samples and measurements taken for the purposes of this Approval are to be taken at a time and in a location characteristic of the quality and quantity of the effluent stream over the time period being monitored.
2. Samples shall be collected at the sampling point(s), at the sampling frequencies and using the sample type specified for each parameter listed in the Effluent Monitoring Table included in Schedule B.
3. Samples shall be collected at the sampling point(s), at the sampling frequencies and using the sample type specified for each parameter listed in the Groundwater Monitoring Table included in Schedule C.
4. Prior to the startup of the Works, background groundwater quality must be established by collecting groundwater samples and having them analyzed for the parameters listed in the Groundwater Monitoring Table included in Schedule C.
5. The Owner shall measure the water level elevation in each of the monitoring wells identified in Schedule C at the time of collection of the water samples pursuant to Schedule C.
6. The Owner shall report the findings of this monitoring in the annual report required pursuant to Condition 9.
7. The measurement frequencies specified in Schedule C in respect of any parameter are minimum requirements which may, after 12 months of monitoring in accordance with this Condition, be modified by the Director in writing from time to time.
8. The Owner shall continue with the monitoring of the critical contaminants as per the Reasonable Use Guidelines, analyse results, make recommendations to address exceedances and include remediation measures in the Annual Performance Report.
9. The Owner shall measure and record the daily volume of effluent being discharged to

subsurface disposal system.

10. The methods and protocols for sampling, analysis, toxicity testing, and recording shall conform, in order of precedence, to the methods and protocols specified in the following:
 - a. the Ministry's publication "Protocol for the Sampling and Analysis of Industrial/ Municipal Wastewater Version 2.0" (January 2016), PIBS 2724e02, as amended from time to time by more recently published editions; and
 - b. the publication "Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater" (21st edition), as amended from time to time by more recently published editions.
11. The measurement frequencies specified in subsection (2) in respect of any parameter are minimum requirements which may, after two (2) years of monitoring in accordance with this condition, be modified by the Director in writing from time to time.
12. A continuous flow measuring device(s) shall be installed and maintained to measure the flowrate of the effluent from the Works, with an accuracy to within plus or minus 15% per cent of the actual flowrate for the entire design range of the flow measuring device and the Owner shall measure, record and calculate the flowrate for each effluent stream on each day of sampling.
13. The Owner shall retain for a minimum of five (5) years from the date of their creation, all records and information related to or resulting from the monitoring activities required by this Approval.

9. REPORTING

1. One week prior to the start up of the operation of the Works, the Owner shall notify the District Manager (in writing) of the pending start up date.
2. The Owner shall report to the District Manager orally as soon as possible any non-compliance with the effluent limits, and in writing within **seven (7) days** of non-compliance.
3. In addition to the obligations under Part X of the EPA and O. Reg. 675/98 (Classification and Exemption of Spills and Reporting of Discharges) made under the EPA, the Owner shall, within **fifteen (15) days** of the occurrence of any reportable spill as provided in Part X of the EPA and O. Reg. 675/98, submit a full written report of the occurrence to the District Manager describing the cause and discovery of the spill, clean-up and recovery measures taken, preventative measures to be taken and a schedule of implementation.
4. The Owner shall, upon request, make all manuals, plans, records, data, procedures and supporting documentation available to Ministry staff.

5. The Owner shall prepare, and submit upon request, a performance report to the District Manager on an annual basis by March 31 of each calendar year. The reports shall contain, but shall not be limited to, the following information:
 - a. a summary and interpretation of all monitoring data, including an overview of the success and adequacy of the Works;
 - b. a description of any operating problems encountered and corrective actions taken at all Works located at the property;
 - c. a summary of all maintenance carried out on any major structure, equipment, apparatus, mechanism or thing forming part of the Works;
 - d. a summary of any effluent quality assurance or control measures undertaken in the reporting period;
 - e. a summary of the calibration and maintenance carried out on all monitoring equipment to ensure that the accuracy is within the tolerance of that equipment as required in this Approval or recommended by the manufacturer;
 - f. a summary of any complaints received during the reporting period and any steps taken to address the complaints;
 - g. a summary of all spill or abnormal discharge events;
 - h. any other information the District Manager requires from time to time.

10. NOTIFICATION OF COMPLAINTS

1. The Owner shall notify the District Manager, in writing, of each environmental complaint within two (2) business days of the complaint. The notification shall include:
 - a. a description of the nature of the complaint;
 - b. the time, date and location of the incident;
 - c. the wind direction and other weather conditions at the time of the incident;
 - d. the name(s) of Company personnel responsible for handling the incident; and;
 - e. the actions taken to address the complaint;

Schedule A

1. Application to Amend Environmental Compliance Approval No. 8368-AGGQYV, prepared by GHD Limited on behalf of Nortera Foods Inc., received on January 12, 2026 for the proposed upgrading of existing sewage Works to serve the operation of a vegetable processing facility at 583278 Hamilton Road, in the Town of Ingersoll, Ontario, including Environmental Study Report, design report, final plans and specifications, and appendices.
2. Environmental Compliance Approval Application Form (Appendix A), prepared by GHD Limited for Nortera Foods Inc., dated 2025 (exact date not specified);
3. Legal documentation confirming owner name change to Nortera Foods Inc. (Appendix B), prepared by the Owner and/or its legal representatives;
4. Environmental Compliance Approval No. 8368-AGGQYV, issued to Bonduelle Canada Inc. by the Director, Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (Appendix C), signed by Fariha Pannu, P.Eng., dated March 31, 2017;
5. Technical Memorandum – Lagoon Capacity and Aeration Assessment (Appendix D), prepared by GHD Limited, dated 2025, evaluating lagoon hydraulic capacity, organic loading conditions, and aeration requirements for the proposed upgrades;
6. Nortera Foods Inc. Ingersoll Facility – 2024 Annual Performance Report (Appendix E), prepared by Nortera Foods Inc., dated 2025, in accordance with the requirements of ECA No. 8368-AGGQYV;
7. Vendor Operation and Maintenance Manual for the proposed diffused aeration system (Appendix F), prepared by Triplepoint Environmental;
8. Spill Reporting Procedures and Environmental Spill & Release documentation (Appendix G), prepared by Nortera Foods Inc.;
9. Project Description (Appendix H), prepared by GHD Limited on behalf of Nortera Foods Inc., and dated 2025;
10. Record of Pre-Application Consultation and meeting documentation (Appendix I), prepared by GHD Limited, documenting consultation with MECP, Nortera Foods Inc., and GHD Limited, including meeting held on November 6, 2025;
11. Zoning Map and land use information (Appendix J), prepared by GHD Limited and/or municipal sources, dated 2026 (as referenced in application materials);
12. Supporting technical information including aeration system design parameters, blower sizing,

diffuser configuration, and system performance criteria, prepared by GHD Limited and Triplepoint Environmental, dated 2025, as included within the application and supporting appendices.

Schedule B

Effluent Monitoring - (Sample Point-Treated Effluent to Spray Irrigation)

Parameters	Frequency	Sample Type
pH, BOD5, Total Suspended Solids, Total Phosphorus, Total Ammonia Nitrogen (Ammonia plus Ammonium), Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen, Zinc, Copper, Iron, Lead, Magnesium, Chloride, Sodium, Calcium and Potassium	Once every week during the spray irrigation season	Grab sample from the surge tank and/or from the irrigation pump sampling port

Schedule C

Groundwater Monitoring

Parameters	Frequency	Sample Type
pH, Total Organic Carbon, Total Phosphorus, Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen, Nitrate, Nitrite, Total Ammonia, Calcium, Magnesium, Chloride, Potassium, Sodium, Sulfate, Iron, Zinc, Copper and Lead.	Monthly	Grab

The reasons for the imposition of these terms and conditions are as follows:

1. Condition 1 regarding general provisions is imposed to ensure that the Works are constructed and operated in the manner in which they were described and upon which approval was granted.
2. Condition 2 is included to ensure that, when the Works are constructed, the Works will meet the standards that apply at the time of construction to ensure the ongoing protection of the environment.
3. Condition 3 is included to ensure that the Ministry records are kept accurate and current with respect to the approved Works and to ensure that subsequent owners of the Works are made aware of the Approval and continue to operate the Works in compliance with it.
4. Condition 4 is included to ensure that the Owner continue to comply with the effluent criteria established for the sewage Works in the previous approval until such time as the Proposed Works are constructed and commissioned.
5. Condition 5 is included to ensure that a comprehensive operations manual governing all significant areas of operation, maintenance and repair is prepared, implemented and kept up-to-date by the owner and made available to the Ministry. Such a manual is an integral part of the operation of the Works. Its compilation and use should assist the owner in staff training, in proper plant operation and in identifying and planning for contingencies during possible abnormal conditions. The manual will also act as a benchmark for Ministry staff when reviewing the owner's operation of the work.
6. Condition 6 is included to ensure that the disposal of effluent is undertaken under conditions and in such a manner as to minimize impact off the property.
7. Condition 7 is imposed to ensure that any effluent discharged from the Works to the groundwater meets the Ministry's effluent quality requirements thus minimizing environmental impact on the receivers. the

Ministry's effluent quality requirements thus minimizing environmental impact on the receivers.

8. Condition 8 regarding monitoring and recording is included to enable the Owner to evaluate and demonstrate the performance of the Works, on a continual basis, so that the Works are properly operated and maintained at a level which is consistent with the design objectives and compliance limits.
9. Condition 9 is included to provide a performance record for future references, to ensure that the Ministry is made aware of problems as they arise, and to provide a compliance record for all the terms and conditions outlined in this Approval, so that the Ministry can work with the Owner in resolving any problems in a timely manner.
10. Condition 10 is included to require the Owner to notify staff of the Ministry so as to assist the Ministry with the review of the site's compliance, to ensure that any complaints regarding operations at the Site are responded to in a timely manner.

**Upon issuance of the environmental compliance approval, I hereby revoke Approval No(s).
8368-AGGQYV issued on March 31, 2017**

In accordance with Section 139 of the *Environmental Protection Act*, you may by written notice served upon me, the Ontario Land Tribunal and in accordance with Section 47 of the *Environmental Bill of Rights*, 1993, the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, within 15 days after receipt of this notice, require a hearing by the Tribunal. The Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks will place notice of your appeal on the Environmental Registry. Section 142 of the *Environmental Protection Act* provides that the notice requiring the hearing ("the Notice") shall state:

- a. The portions of the environmental compliance approval or each term or condition in the environmental compliance approval in respect of which the hearing is required, and;
- b. The grounds on which you intend to rely at the hearing in relation to each portion appealed.

Pursuant to subsection 139(3) of the *Environmental Protection Act*, a hearing may not be available with respect to any terms and conditions in this environmental compliance approval, if the terms and conditions are substantially the same as those contained in an approval that is amended or revoked by this environmental compliance approval.

The Notice should also include:

1. The name of the appellant;
2. The address of the appellant;
3. The environmental compliance approval number;
4. The date of the environmental compliance approval;
5. The name of the Director, and;
6. The municipality or municipalities within which the project is to be engaged in.

And the Notice should be signed and dated by the appellant.

This Notice must be served upon:

Registrar*
Ontario Land Tribunal
655 Bay Street, Suite 1500
Toronto, Ontario
M5G 1E5
OLT.Registrar@ontario.ca

and

The Minister of the Environment,
Conservation and Parks
777 Bay Street, 5th Floor
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 2J3

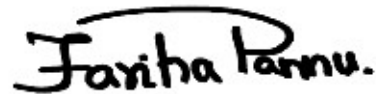
and

The Director appointed for the purposes of
Part II.1 of the *Environmental Protection Act*
Ministry of the Environment,
Conservation and Parks
135 St. Clair Avenue West, 1st Floor
Toronto, Ontario
M4V 1P5

* **Further information on the Ontario Land Tribunal's requirements for an appeal can be obtained directly from the Tribunal at: Tel: (416) 212-6349 or 1 (866) 448-2248, or www.olt.gov.on.ca**

This instrument is subject to Section 38 of the *Environmental Bill of Rights*, 1993, that allows residents of Ontario to seek leave to appeal the decision on this instrument. Residents of Ontario may seek leave to appeal within 15 days from the date this decision is placed on the Environmental Registry. By accessing the Environmental Registry at <https://ero.ontario.ca/>, you can determine when the leave to appeal period ends.

The above noted activity is approved under s.20.3 of Part II.1 of the *Environmental Protection Act*.
DATED AT TORONTO this 2nd day of June, 2026



Fariha Pannu, P.Eng.

Director

appointed for the purposes of Part II.1 of the
Environmental Protection Act

OM/

c: District Manager, MECP London - District
Ian Summerscales, GHD Limited