Appendix 1, Example Rules and Justifications

Code and Justifications to be used when filling out the Variance Request Notification (Form 542-0541) and the Letter.

*Burial*

567 IAC Iowa Administrative Code 100.4(2)”b”(1)- The dead farm animals result from operations located on the premises where disposal occurs.

There is not adequate land on the premises where the dead animals originated to bury in a safe manner. Other disposal options are not feasible.  Hauling to a landfill is very cost prohibitive and generally landfills do not have the capacity to handle the quantities of waste material that will need to be disposed of.

The off site burial location will follow DNR rules or the guidelines in the Mass Animal Mortality Plan for separation distances unless otherwise approved by the Department.

100.4(2)”b”(2)- A maximum loading rate of 7 cattle, 44 swine, 73 sheep or lambs or 400 poultry carcasses on any given acre per year.

Due to the quantity of animals needing disposed of, the maximum loading rate of 44 swine carcasses per acre will be needed to be exceeded. The burial will meet DNR rules or the guidelines in the Mass Animal Mortality Plan for separation distances which will reduce expected impacts to the environment.

100.4(2)”b”(4) – The lowest elevation of the burial pit is six feet or less below the surface.

A minimum separation of 2-3 feet from the high water table will be maintained

*If doing above ground burial we may also need to address:*

100.4(2)”b”(5)- The dead farm animals are immediately covered with a minimum of 6 inches of soil and finally covered with a total minimum of 30 inches of soil.

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Because the plan for shallow burial only includes excavation of 24 inches, 30 inches of soil would not be available to cover the carcasses. However, shallow burial is more protective of the environment by allowing for increased separation from groundwater and faster decomposition of the carcasses because they are in the more biologically active zone of the soil profile. As long as the cover is maintained, the shallow burial provides equal or better environmental protection than deep burial therefore the additional 6 inches of soil cover isn't necessary.