



6 Dissect the ILO Proposal

Gather Information—Where to Look

You will need to understand the proposal itself, as well as the economic, social, geographic and environmental situation surrounding the it. Gather information about the area, the proposed project and the by-laws, rules and regulations that apply to it. Look for the information at:

Local Sources

- Land Titles Office
- Municipality, County, Municipal District, Planning District, Zoning Commission

Find any by-laws and/or resolutions for:

- planning
- zoning
- health
- manure management
- ILO permitting
- environmental protection

Provincial Sources:

- Department of Health or Office of Chief Medical Health Officer
- Department Environment
- Department of Natural Resources
- Department of Industry
- Department of Water Conservation/Stewardship
- Department of Agriculture
- Conservation Districts or Watershed Authorities

Federal Sources

Currently the federal government provides limited oversight for ILO development, however many of the agencies listed below will provide technical and research materials.

- National Water Research Institute www.nwri.ca
- Geological Survey of Canada <http://gsc.nrcan.gc.ca>
- Environment Canada www.ec.gc.ca
- Department of Fisheries and Oceans www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca
- Natural Resources Canada www.nrcan-rncan.gc.ca
- National Research Council www.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca
- Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada www.agr.gc.ca
- Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration (PFRA) www.agr.gc.ca/pfra/
- Canadian Food and Inspection Agency www.inspection.gc.ca
- Canadian Environment Assessment Agency/Canadian Environmental Assessment Registry www.ceaa-acee.gc.ca
- Public Health Agency of Canada www.phac-aspc.gc.ca

Statistics Canada

Statistics Canada is a rich source of data on many aspects of agriculture, communities, economics and the environment with links to statistics on various topics.

www.statcan.ca/start.html

- “*The Daily*” provides short reports with current statistics on a variety of topics.
www.statcan.ca/english/dai-quo/

Maps

- Map of Very Large Farms in Canada
<http://tinyurl.com/2sa5gb>
- A Geographical Profile of Manure Production in Canada
<http://tinyurl.com/yw3qtd>
- Google Maps—An internet tool that provides maps, satellite photos and a combination of the two for detailed information about any given location.
<http://maps.google.com/>

What to Look for—Logistical and Local Information

Once you are familiar with the local laws and permitting rules required in your province and municipality, county or planning district, you will need to review the factory farm proposal for its consistency with the applicable laws, regulations and guidelines.

It is important to involve as many volunteers and neighbors as possible who are familiar with the surrounding geography in your area so as to identify any weak points in the proposal. Local ecological knowledge plays an important role in helping your group identify errors in the proposal. Do not assume that the information supplied by the proponent is correct. Also, assume that your provincial government agencies are supportive of the project and will provide minimal support and information to those who oppose the development.

Errors in the proposal can be used to enhance your strategy and weaken the integrity of the proposal and the credibility of the proponent.

Things to know—General background information

- name of developer
- type of facility (hog, dairy, feedlot, poultry)
- number of animals proposed at facility
- number of animal units proposed
- municipality (or county) facility is proposed in
- time frame (key dates for hearings, meeting, deadlines, appeals etc.)

Proximity

How close is this proposal to nearby residents and different community entities and infrastructure, including:

- nearest city/town
- nearest freeway and local roads to be used
- nearest feed mill
- nearby residences, businesses, schools, day care centres, nursing homes, churches, tourism sites, recreation areas
- nearest hospital



Local regulations

Find out about any local government by-law or regulation that may apply to agriculture. Local approvals are usually required for any type of proposed development. A factory farm may be designated as discretionary/conditional use or as a permitted use within your community's planning scheme. Depending on the province, local decision-making will be required if the ILO is designated as a discretionary/conditional use. Find the following information:

- minimum setback distances
- county/municipal resolutions dealing with ILOs
- township/planning district resolutions
- development plans and ILO policies
- zoning and land use by-laws
- other bylaws that may be applicable (i.e., waste disposal, health)
- public notification procedure triggered by proposal
- appeal process for local decisions

