



**MINISTER
OF ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE**

Room 344
Legislative Building
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 0V8
CANADA

Barry Friesen
Executive Director
Cleanfarms Inc.
10 Four Seasons Place, Suite 400
Etobicoke ON M9B 6H

Dear Barry Friesen:

I approve your Crop Input Packaging Recovery Program effective July 1, 2023. This Approval marks twelve successful years of the program's operations in Manitoba and recognizes Cleanfarms' continued dedication to protecting the environment. This Approval will expire June 30, 2028, pursuant to Section 7(4) of the Regulation under the Waste Reduction and Prevention Act unless otherwise noted.

This Approval is issued to Cleanfarms under Section 7(2) of the Packaging and Printed Paper Stewardship Regulation, 2008 (Regulation) and is subject to Cleanfarms meeting the conditions as set forth in "Attachment A" of this letter, which forms part of this Approval.

Increasing waste diversion from landfills and advancing a circular economy are priorities for my department. I appreciate your commitment to recycling additional materials, such as non-deposit, bulk containers 23L or larger and bags that held seed, pesticide or inoculants, in your new program plan. I commend your program for meeting the recovery target of 75% for empty pesticide and fertilizer containers and I approve the new recovery targets identified in your program plan. As we work to modernize Manitoba's waste diversion and recycling framework, I expect you to continue to explore opportunities to promote a circular economy in the province.

Your program has an important role in providing waste diversion services to Manitobans. I am pleased to see your program is taking steps to assess the needs of growers, municipalities and retailers to ensure a smooth transition of your program's collection network to retail sites for containers less than 23L. Please continue to work with all producers and collection sites to ensure uninterrupted collection services to consumers.

Manitobans suggested opportunities for increasing awareness of waste diversion and recycling programs through more engagement. I appreciate your program plan's communication goals, and I expect you to continue exploring engagement strategies to reach all Manitobans, including Indigenous peoples and youth.

Going forward, my department will meet with you or your designated representative on an annual basis as an opportunity for you to share your program's progress and to discuss continuous improvement.

Cleanfarms should submit its next application for renewal of this Approval by October 31, 2027 to allow adequate time for review and public consultations. However, you may apply for approval of an amendment to your stewardship program plan at any time, under Section 13(1) of the Regulation.

I look forward to our continued collaboration on this program. If you have any additional questions or would like to discuss this matter further, please contact Kelly Kuryk, Acting Senior Manager, Environmental Policy and Delivery Unit, at Kelly.Kuryk@gov.mb.ca or 431-374-9424.

Kind regards,

Original signed by

Honourable Kevin Klein
Minister of Environment and Climate

Attachment

c. Kelly Kuryk

ATTACHMENT A

Conditions of Approval

Cleanfarms

The conditions set forth below form part of the Ministerial approval for the Crop Input Packaging Recovery Program (Program) Plan pursuant to the Packaging and Printed Paper Stewardship Regulation, 2008 (Regulation).

Under Section 11(1) of the Regulation, the Minister has the authority to suspend or cancel the Approval of the Program at any time if there is a breach or contravention by Cleanfarms as the operator of the Program, of either The Waste Reduction and Prevention Act or the Regulation or the conditions set forth in this Approval and, if applicable, subsequent amendments of this Approval.

If the Minister is not assured that Cleanfarms is implementing or operating the Program substantially in accordance with its intent, or where the Minister or department have concluded, based on relevant circumstances, that the Program or terms of this Approval, including "Attachment A: Conditions of Approval" should be reviewed, then pursuant to Section 8 of the Regulation new or additional conditions may be imposed as deemed appropriate so as to ensure that the environmental outcomes and regulatory requirements are fulfilled.

Any notices to be provided to the department pursuant to this approval are to be submitted in writing to: Senior Manager, Environmental Policy and Delivery Unit, Manitoba Environment and Climate, Box 37 - 14 Fultz Boulevard, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3Y 0L6.

The conditions of this approval are:

THAT Cleanfarms:

1. Implement and operate the program substantially in accordance with the submitted program plan's intent, consistent with the requirements of The Waste Reduction and Prevention Act, the Packaging and Printed Paper Stewardship Regulation, the Guideline for Packaging and Printed Paper Stewardship, and these Conditions of Approval, as approved and amended from time to time.
2. Identify a senior official with Cleanfarms as a contact person to work with my officials to provide such assistance or any information (including both financial and non-financial information) that may be deemed necessary in a timely manner to enable them to provide me with information to assess whether Cleanfarms has implemented the Program and it is operating substantially in accordance with its intent and the Conditions of Approval and, if applicable, subsequent amendments to this Approval.

3. Retained earnings shown on Cleanfarms' financial statement for the Manitoba program (total revenues less total expenditures), as determined by an external auditor, shall not at any time during the term of this approval, exceed an amount equal to one year's program revenue.
4. Submit annual reports to the department's senior manager who administers The Waste Reduction and Prevention Act, per the applicable regulation and guidelines.
5. Provide meaningful opportunity for input at strategic points (amendment of program plan, annual reporting, and continuous review of operations) from government, service delivery agencies, relevant external agencies, and the public, per the applicable regulation and guidelines.
6. Maintain its status as a body corporate and registration under The Corporations Act, C.C.S.M. c. C225 (Manitoba) while operating the program.
7. Over the next year, work with the department to identify key performance indicators that will contribute to an evaluation framework measuring the performance of stewardship programs in Manitoba. You will be required to report on these key performance indicators in your annual reports to show that the program is working towards incremental, improved outcomes.
8. For all designated program materials, provide Manitoba-specific baseline recovery data for each material category no later than the end of 2025.
9. Increase Manitoba-specific program recovery rates of all material categories by 5% from baseline recovery rates by 2028.
10. Develop accessibility standards for collection sites by 2025 to ensure product users have reasonable access to program drop-off locations and begin reporting on accessibility annually in 2026.
11. Develop a baseline of awareness and satisfaction by 2026 and begin reporting on awareness and satisfaction annually by 2027.
12. Submit an assessment of the financial impacts to Manitoban consumers with evidence to show that the new fees do not significantly impact Manitoba's consumers to the department prior to introducing the new levies on the totes, drums and seed, pesticide and inoculant bags in the Crop Input Packaging Recovery Program.
13. Work with the province and agricultural retailers and producers, to support an efficient transition to retail collection sites.