



# PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN

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**Applicant Name:**

Buffalo Biodiesel, Inc.

**Facility Name and Address:**

Buffalo Biodiesel, Inc. – Used Cooking Oil (UCO) and Yellow Grease Processing  
Facility  
225 Sawyer Avenue  
Tonawanda, NY 14150

**DEC ID Number:**

TBD

**Regional Office Address:**

NYSDEC Region 9  
700 Delaware Ave  
Buffalo, NY 14209

**Preparer Name and Address:**

Razul Sayem  
Buffalo Biodiesel, Inc.  
225 Sawyer Ave, Tonawanda Town, NY-14150

**Date / Revision Date:**

March 16, 2026

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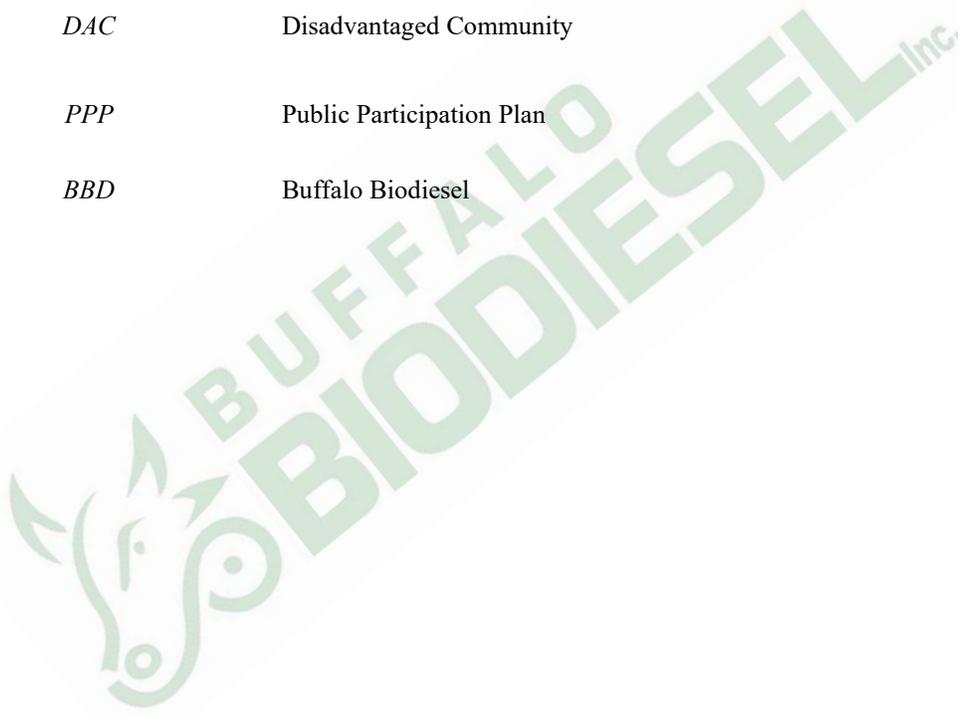
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## List of Acronyms

<i>CP-29</i>	Commissioner Policy 29, Environmental Justice and Permitting
<i>UPA</i>	Uniform Procedures Act
<i>NYCRR</i>	New York Codes, Rules and Regulations
<i>NOCA</i>	Notice of Complete Application
<i>NYSDEC</i>	New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
<i>DAC</i>	Disadvantaged Community
<i>PPP</i>	Public Participation Plan
<i>BBD</i>	Buffalo Biodiesel



# 1. INTRODUCTION AND OBJECTIVE

This Public Participation Plan (PPP) has been prepared by Buffalo Biodiesel, Inc. (“BBD”) to fulfill and comply with the requirements of New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Commissioner Policy 29, Environmental Justice and Permitting (CP-29) for their proposed Used Cooking Oil and Yellow Grease Processing Facility, that requires a 6 NYCRR Subpart 361-8 – Used Cooking Oil and Yellow Grease Processing Facilities permit application and which has been determined by NYSDEC to potentially impact one or more potential environmental justice area (PEJA) (See Figure 1).. The purpose of this PPP is to ensure that the public is informed of the proposed regulatory action and is provided meaningful opportunities to review project information, ask questions, and submit comments during the review process.

Buffalo Biodiesel, Inc. is applying for a 6 NYCRR Part 360 Solid Waste Management Facility Permit for its Used Cooking Oil (UCO) and Yellow Grease Processing Facility located at 225 Sawyer Avenue, Tonawanda, NY 14150. The Facility has operated at this location since 2005. A permit under the current NYSDEC solid waste regulations is required because UCO and yellow grease processing activities are now subject to permitting under revised state requirements.

The proposed action includes authorization under 6 NYCRR Subpart 361-8 – Used Cooking Oil and Yellow Grease Processing Facilities.

This PPP outlines the steps BBD will take to notify the community, share project information, and engage interested stakeholders throughout the permit review period. The objective of the PPP is to promote transparency, facilitate communication between BBD, NYSDEC, and the public, and document how public input will be received and considered as part of the regulatory decision-making process.

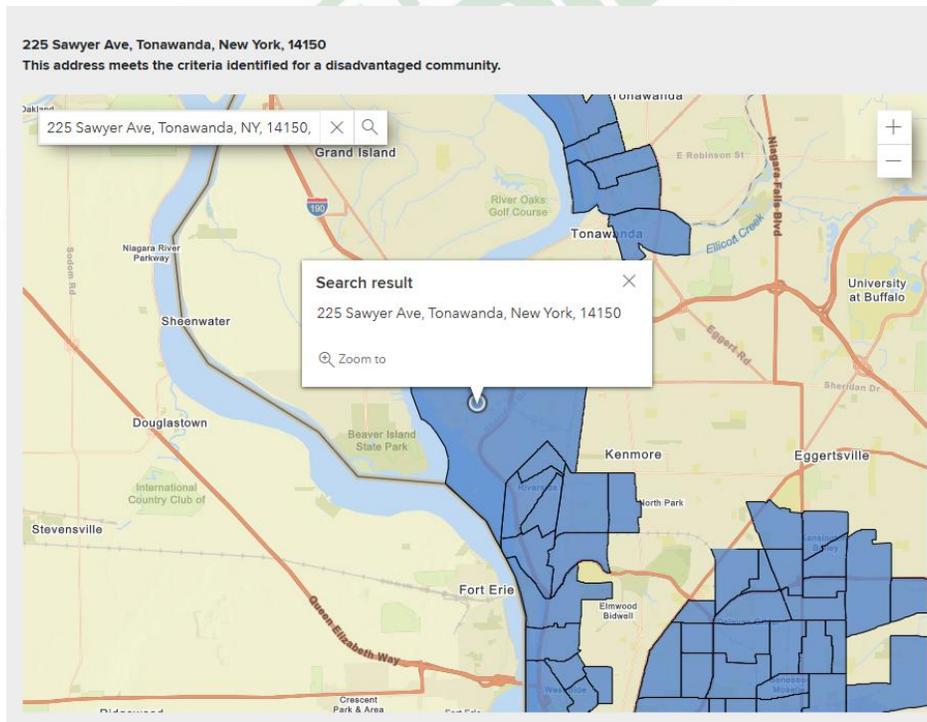


Figure 1: Project Location and Disadvantage Communities Area

## **2. PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

### **2.1 Project Overview**

Buffalo Biodiesel, Inc. is seeking a Part 360 Solid Waste Management Facility Permit to continue operating an existing Used Cooking Oil (UCO) and Yellow Grease Processing Facility at 225 Sawyer Avenue, Tonawanda, NY 14150 (the “Facility”). The Facility receives UCO and yellow grease from restaurants and commercial food establishments, screens and refines the material by phase separation, stores refined oil in aboveground storage tanks, and transfers the refined product to customers for biodiesel production.

NYSDEC Permitting Action:

6 NYCRR Part 360 Solid Waste Management Facility Permit, including Subpart 361-8 (Used Cooking Oil and Yellow Grease Processing Facilities).

The permitting action will authorize Buffalo Biodiesel, Inc. to operate a UCO and yellow grease processing facility within the Town of Tonawanda’s General Industrial (GI) zoning district.

### **2.2 Nature of the Proposed Project**

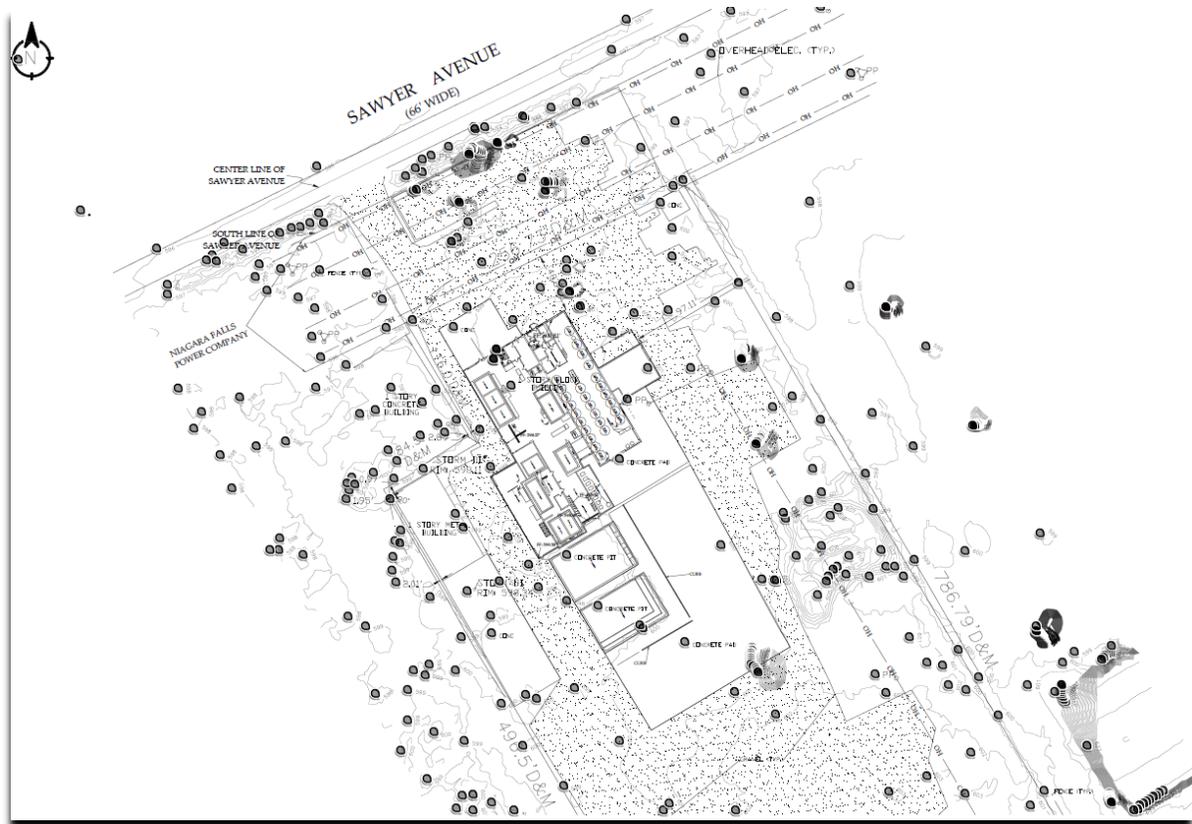
The Facility is a privately owned Used Cooking Oil (UCO) and yellow grease processing facility. Material is collected exclusively from restaurants and fast-food chains using Buffalo Biodiesel-provided totes and containers. BBD does not accept UCO from households. UCO and yellow grease are the only materials accepted at the Facility.

UCO and yellow grease are unloaded from tankers, vacuum trucks, and BBD trailers on a concrete unloading pad into a screened trough, then pumped to heat tanks or aboveground storage tanks (ASTs). The oil is heated to approximately 160°F to promote phase separation into refined oil, water, and sludge. Refined oil is stored in clean ASTs and later pumped into tankers for shipment to transesterification facilities for biodiesel production. Water and sludge are managed through a dedicated wastewater and sludge handling system and discharged or disposed consistent with regulatory requirements.

The Facility also operates six temporary depots in New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio that function only as transloading points; oil collected at the depots is transferred into semi-trailers and hauled to the Tonawanda plant for processing. No processing or bulk storage occurs at the depots.

### **2.3 Facility Service Area**

Material received at BBD is collected by its drivers in 10 states: New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, New Jersey, Vermont, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maryland, West Virginia, and Michigan. In New York, BBD services counties across the state, including Erie and Niagara Counties and numerous upstate and downstate counties.



**Figure 2: Site Plan**

## 2.4 Purpose and Need

The purpose of the project is to obtain a Part 360 Solid Waste Management Facility Permit so BBD can continue operating its existing UCO and yellow grease processing facility in compliance with solid waste regulations. The Facility has operated at 225 Sawyer Avenue since 2005 and processes more than 10,000,000 gallons of UCO annually.

The Facility supports regional waste diversion and beneficial reuse objectives by collecting and processing UCO and yellow grease from restaurants and commercial food establishments across New York and neighboring states and preparing the material as feedstock for biodiesel and other manufactured products.

## 2.5 Potential Environmental and Community Impacts

Operations at the Facility have the potential to affect wastewater, sludge generation, truck traffic, odors, and noise, which are addressed through design and operating controls described in the Facility Operations Manual. Wastewater generated during UCO processing is pretreated, pH-adjusted, and settled in on-site water tanks, then discharged under the Town of Tonawanda Industrial Sewer Connection Permit #646 to the municipal sanitary sewer via a grease trap system. Sludge is dewatered using a filter press and transported to an off-site anaerobic digester.

The Facility is located in a General Industrial (GI) zoning district where manufacturing, processing, and truck/rail terminal uses are allowed. Buffalo Biodiesel has operated at this location since 2005 and employs required controls to minimize negative impacts to surrounding areas. Additional controls for spills, secondary containment, overflow protection, housekeeping, and noise are addressed in the Facility Operations Manual.

### 3. STAKEHOLDER IDENTIFICATION

A contact list consisting of the names, addresses, phone numbers, and/or email addresses of stakeholders for the proposed action is provided in Appendix A. This list includes individuals, community members, organizations, and governmental representatives with a direct or potential interest in the proposed project, as well as parties who have expressed interest in similar projects within the surrounding neighborhood or community.

To develop the draft contact list, BBD engaged with residents and neighborhood groups located near or adjacent to the Facility, and with local community, civic, environmental, and business that will be or potentially will be affected by the operation. In addition, local information resources such as Town of Tonawanda government offices, community associations, and regional environmental organizations were consulted to help identify appropriate stakeholders and develop the initial list.

The contact list has been developed in consultation with NYSDEC and includes stakeholders within the following categories:

- Local government and elected officials (Town, County, State, and Federal);
- Business owners, residents, and occupants within and adjacent to the project area;
- Local civic, community, environmental, and neighborhood organizations;
- Emergency response agencies;
- Operators of schools, daycares, and community facilities; and
- News media outlets serving the Town of Tonawanda and surrounding communities.

Because the Facility is situated within a designated Environmental Justice (EJ) Area, the contact list includes stakeholders and community organizations representing or serving EJ populations near the Facility. Stakeholders were identified within a 1-mile notification radius surrounding the project area to ensure inclusive outreach to potentially affected communities.

BBD will use this contact list to communicate and disseminate information regarding the proposed project and the NYSDEC permit application review process. At minimum, this includes distribution of written notices and public information materials described in Section V to inform the community about public meetings and opportunities for participation in the review process.

The contact list will be reviewed and updated periodically throughout the permit application review process. New stakeholders will be added as identified during public meetings, through direct outreach, or upon request. Requests to be added to the contact list should be submitted to the project liaison identified in Section IV. Additions may also be made at the discretion of BBD or at the request of the NYSDEC project manager, in consultation with Department staff, as appropriate.



**Figure 3: Outreach Radius Map**

#### 4. PROJECT LIAISON AND CONTACTS

A representative from the project team will be available during business hours at:

**Name:** Tanzim Ahsan

**Position:** Compliance Engineer

**Mobile:** 716-994-1455

**Telephone:** 716-427-1773

**Email:** [tanzim.ahsan@buffalobiodiesel.com](mailto:tanzim.ahsan@buffalobiodiesel.com)

**Address:** 17 Court St, Buffalo, NY- 14202

Impacted residents and interested stakeholders can contact the project liaison listed above to provide input to the project team, discuss any issues or concerns and/or to ask questions or request information. The project liaison shall respond in a timely manner and in the manner appropriate to question or information request received. The project liaison will be responsible for tracking and documenting public input, inquires, questions, and information requests received, along with responses provided.

## 5. PUBLIC OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

BBD will implement a series of public outreach activities to ensure effective communication, transparency, and meaningful public involvement during the NYSDEC permit application review process. As an existing Facility located within a New York State–designated Disadvantaged Community (DAC) and Environmental Justice (EJ) Area, enhanced public participation requirements apply under NYSDEC Commissioner Policy CP-29.

Upon approval of this Public Participation Plan (PPP) by NYSDEC, BBD will initiate the outreach activities described below. These activities are intended to notify the community that the Facility is applying for a 6 NYCRR Part 360 Solid Waste Management Facility Permit and to engage local residents, stakeholders, and organizations throughout the review process.

In accordance with 6 NYCRR 621.3(a)(3), BBD will hold one virtual public information meeting near or at the time that NYSDEC issues a Notice of Complete Application (NOCA) and opens a public comment period. The purpose of the meeting will be to inform the public about the permit application, discuss the Facility’s operations, explain the environmental review process, and provide an opportunity for attendees to ask questions and provide comments.

Public outreach materials—including meeting notices and fact sheets—will be distributed in English and Spanish, the predominant languages in the surrounding DAC/EJ community. Additional languages may be provided upon request. All information will be presented in plain language and formatted for accessibility.

### 5.1 Public Meeting

At the discretion of NYSDEC and, depending on the scale and nature of this project, one or more virtual public meeting(s) will be conducted to satisfy the intent of CP-29. A meeting is typically required near the end of the permit application review process to inform the public about: the status of, or, if applicable, the availability of, final application materials and draft permits for review; the pending NYSDEC public comment period, and deadline to submit written comments to NYSDEC, if established; and eventual final decision. Summary of meetings held earlier is provided in Appendix E.

#### **Public Meeting: At or Near Completeness**

A virtual public meeting will be held on \_\_\_\_\_.

The meeting will:

- Inform the public about the proposed project and permit application review status.
- Summarize the Facility’s ongoing operations and the nature of the permit.
- Provide the opportunity for stakeholders to ask questions and express concerns about the project
- Provide information on how to obtain information or answers to questions after the meeting concludes.
- Inform attendees how they may submit written comments on the permit application to the NYSDEC during the public comment period and, if available, identify any applicable deadlines.
- Identify where application materials and supporting documents may be accessed online.

## **Meeting Facilitation and Discussion Requirements**

The meeting will be facilitated by BBD and its project team. Meeting content will include:

### **Presentation by Applicant**

- Overview of the Facility's existing operations
- Purpose of the Part 360 permit
- Description of the permit review process and timeline
- Summary of environmental controls
- Summary of community protection measures

### **Community Dialogue / Q&A**

- Stakeholders may ask questions verbally or through the chat function
- BBD will respond to questions during the meeting
- Follow-up questions may be submitted to the project liaison after the meeting
- Stakeholders may request to be added to the contact list

### **Required Information to Be Communicated**

- Confirmation that NYSDEC has not yet issued a permitting decision
- Availability and location of the online document repository
- Instructions for submitting written public comments to NYSDEC
- Notification of future public participation opportunities

### **Attendance Tracking and Documentation**

Attendance will be recorded using Zoom's attendance log, and BBD will document:

- Total number of attendees
- Affiliations (when voluntarily provided)
- Questions raised and responses provided
- Requests for additional information

This documentation will be included in the PPP Implementation Report submitted to NYSDEC.

## **5.2 Virtual Public Meeting Notice Preparation and Distribution**

A meeting notice will be prepared in English and Spanish and distributed at least two weeks prior to the virtual public meeting.

The notice will be:

- Posted in the online document repository
- Published in the Niagara Action print edition (weekly newspaper circulated in Erie County and the Town of Tonawanda)
- Emailed and mailed to all stakeholders listed in Appendix A
- Hand-delivered within the 1-mile notification radius in the surrounding DAC/EJ community
- Posted on community bulletin boards at:
  - Sheridan Parkside Community Center
  - Brighton Community Center
  - Town of Tonawanda Municipal Building
  - Local libraries and other publicly accessible facilities

The notice will describe how to join the meeting, how to request language assistance, and how to access project information.

### **5.3 Fact Sheet Preparation and Distribution**

Factual information on the proposed project/action, including an overview, purpose statement, and potential impacts, is outlined in the reader-friendly fact sheet shown in Appendix C. In addition, the fact sheet outlines how interested stakeholders can: participate in the permit application review process; access the online document repository to review relevant application materials prior to the public meeting; and contact the project team to obtain additional information. The fact sheet has been prepared in English and will be translated into Spanish by a certified translator.

Once the PPP has been approved by NYSDEC the fact sheet will be posted and available in the online document repository described in Section VI of this document. No later than 2 weeks prior to the public meeting, the applicant will distribute the fact sheet to provide stakeholders with relevant background on the proposed project/action and facilitate meaningful participation during the meeting. The fact sheet will be distributed together with the public meeting notice via email, mail and/or hand delivery (door-to-door).

The fact sheet(s) will also be posted within the vicinity of the project site and visible to the public at locations such as the Tonawanda City Hall, Sheridan Parkside notice boards, and local libraries.

### **5.4 Distribution of Notice of Complete Application (NOCA)**

Once NYSDEC issues the NOCA, BBD will:

- Distribute the NOCA and draft permit (if applicable) to all stakeholders in Appendix A
- Post the NOCA in the online document repository
- Email or mail the NOCA to meeting attendees
- Publish the NOCA in the Niagara Action weekly paper in accordance with NYSDEC requirements

If the NOCA is available at the time of the public meeting, it will be distributed during the event. If the NOCA is not available at the time of the meeting, BBD will provide explicit instructions on how to access the online repository and inform the attendees that, once available, the NOCA will be posted to the online document repository and will be distributed to attendees via email or mail as soon as possible, no later than the date that the NOCA is published by BBD in the print edition of Niagara Action that is circulated weekly and available in the Tonawanda.

### **5.5 Additional Outreach and Materials**

Because the Facility is located within a DAC/EJ area, BBD will also:

- Provide bilingual project summaries and FAQs
- Offer language assistance for Spanish-speaking or limited-English-proficiency stakeholders
- Coordinate with EJ and community-based organizations listed in Appendix A
- Provide printed materials at community centers and key public locations
- Maintain a dedicated email and phone line for public inquiries

## 6. DOCUMENTATION AND REPORTING

Document repositories, both online and physical, has been established for the community and interested stakeholders to access and review information regarding the proposed permit action.

Online repository available at:

<https://www.buffalobiodiesel.com/regulatory>

A list of physical repositories has been provided in Appendix D.

The online repository and the physical repository will contain all relevant information and documents associated with the project and the NYSDEC permit application review process. Materials will be posted in a clear, organized, and accessible format to ensure transparency and facilitate meaningful public participation.

The repositories will be updated regularly throughout the application process with project-related information and written materials, including but not limited to:

- The Facility's Part 360 permit application, including all required forms and supporting documentation
- Engineering reports, operational descriptions, and supplemental materials
- The Public Participation Plan (PPP) and any updates or amendments
- The Project Fact Sheet and Public Meeting Notice(s)
- The Notice of Complete Application (NOCA) issued by NYSDEC
- The draft permit and statement of basis, where applicable
- Presentation materials used during the virtual public meeting
- Responses to questions or comments raised during the public meeting, as appropriate
- Any other outreach or notification documents prepared under this PPP

All documents will remain accessible to the public for the duration of the NYSDEC permit review process. Stakeholders may also request physical or printed copies of repository materials through the project liaison identified in Section IV.

## 7. SUBMISSION

### 7.1 Progress Report

No later than two weeks following the required virtual public meeting described in Section V, BBD will submit a Progress Report to NYSDEC in the form of a summary memorandum with cover letter. As an existing Facility with no early engagement meeting, this Progress Report will summarize activities conducted in accordance with the approved Public Participation Plan (PPP) up to that date.

At minimum, the Progress Report will:

- Describe progress to date in implementing the approved PPP, identify any components not yet completed, and provide an updated timeline for completing all remaining PPP obligations.
- Summarize the public meeting, including:
  - Date and time of the meeting
  - Total number of attendees
  - Affiliation and diversity of attendees, where voluntarily provided
  - Interests represented at the meeting

- Include or append all written public outreach materials and documentation used or distributed before or during the meeting, including:
  - The bilingual virtual public meeting notice
  - The bilingual project fact sheet
  - Meeting sign-in sheet(s) or virtual attendance log
  - Presentation slides or materials
  - Meeting notes or minutes
  - Summary of questions asked and answers provided
  - Copy of the newspaper meeting notice or other proof of publication
- Identify any language assistance or disability accommodation requests received before or during the meeting, and document any actions taken to address such requests.
- Summarize all substantive concerns raised to date—either during the public meeting or through direct communication with the project liaison—and provide BBD’s responses.
- Include a table listing:
  - All substantive concerns raised
  - Applicant responses
  - Resolved issues
  - Outstanding issues
- Describe any changes or refinements to the project or permit application that were made or considered in response to public feedback or NYSDEC review.

The Progress Report will become part of the application record and will be posted to the online document repository and placed in the physical repository so that it is readily accessible to the public.

## **7.2 Final Summary Report and Written Certification**

Upon completion of all enhanced public participation activities described in this PPP, BBD will submit a Written Certification to NYSDEC affirming that the PPP has been fully executed and implemented. The certification will be signed by BBD or BBD’s authorized representative and submitted prior to NYSDEC’s final permit decision.

As part of the certification, BBD will submit a Final Summary Report documenting the implementation of all components of the PPP. The Final Summary Report will:

- Summarize all outreach activities conducted under the PPP.
- Identify all substantive concerns raised by stakeholders during the public meeting or through other forms of communication throughout the application process.
- Provide detailed responses by BBD to each concern or question raised.
- Include or append all supporting documentation, such as:
  - Meeting sign-in sheets or virtual attendance logs
  - Meeting presentations
  - Notes or minutes
  - Summary of questions and answers
  - Copies of newspaper notices or proof of publication
  - Copies of all bilingual materials distributed to the community
- Identify any project modifications, operational refinements, or mitigation measures that were implemented or considered to address community concerns or potential impacts.

The Final Summary Report and Written Certification will be included in the administrative record for the permit application and will be posted to the online document repository and the physical document repository to ensure continued public access.

## APPENDIX A – STAKEHOLDER CONTACT LIST

### A. Local Government & Elected Officials

Stakeholder	Title / Office	Address	Phone	Email
Joseph F. Emminger	Supervisor, Town of Tonawanda	Town of Tonawanda Municipal Building, 2919 Delaware Ave, Kenmore, NY 14217	(716) 877-8800	supervisor@tonawanda.ny.us
Carl Szarek	Town Board Member	2919 Delaware Ave, Kenmore, NY 14217	(716) 871-9592	cszarek@tonawanda.ny.us
Jacqualine Smilinich	Town Board Member	2919 Delaware Ave, Kenmore, NY 14217	(716) 871-9592	jsmilinich@tonawanda.ny.us
Tim Meyers	Town Board Member	2919 Delaware Ave, Kenmore, NY 14217	(716) 871-9592	tmeyers@tonawanda.ny.us
Shannon Patch	Town Board Member	2919 Delaware Ave, Kenmore, NY 14217	(716) 871-9592	spatch@tonawanda.ny.us
John A. Bargnesi, Jr.	Erie County Legislator, District 4	92 Franklin St, 4th Floor, Buffalo, NY 14202	(716) 858-8672	john.bargnesi@erie.gov
William C. Conrad III	NYS Assembly Member, District 140	3518 Delaware Ave, Kenmore, NY 14217	(716) 873-2540	conradw@nyassembly.gov
Senator Jeremy Zellner	NYS Senator, District 61	65 Niagara Square, Room 615, Buffalo, NY 14202	(716) 854-8705	zellner@nysenate.gov

### B. Emergency Services & First Responders

Organization	Address	Phone	Email
Kenilworth Fire Department	84 Hawthorne Ave, Buffalo, NY 14223	(716) 877-9222	info@kenilworthfire.com
Brighton Fire Company No. 1	50 Jamaica Rd, Tonawanda, NY 14150	(716) 833-1529	info@brightonfireco1.com
Town of Tonawanda Police Department – Community Relations	1835 Sheridan Dr, Buffalo, NY 14223	(716) 879-6613	police@tonawanda.ny.us

### C. Community Organizations, Civic Groups & EJ Stakeholders

Organization	Type	Address	Phone	Email
Sheridan Parkside Community Association	Neighborhood / EJ Community	169 Sheridan Parkside Dr, Tonawanda, NY 14150	(716) 838-1240	info@parktown.org
Brighton Community Association	Neighborhood Organization	251 Brompton Rd, Tonawanda, NY 14150	(716) 332-0754	N/A
Ken-Ton Chamber of Commerce	Business / Civic	3411 Delaware Ave, Suite 206, Kenmore, NY 14217	(716) 874-1202	info@kctcny.com
Clean Air Coalition of Western New York	Environmental / EJ Organization	52 Linwood Ave, Buffalo, NY 14209	(716) 852-3813	bridge@cacwny.org
Citizen Science Community Resources (CSCR)	Environmental Health / EJ	341 Delaware Ave, Buffalo, NY 14202	(716) 389-9612	info@scienceresources.org
Buffalo Niagara Waterkeeper	Environmental Organization	721 Main St, Buffalo, NY 14203	(716) 852-7483	info@bnwaterkeeper.org
Western New York Environmental Alliance	Environmental Network	257 Lafayette Ave, Buffalo, NY 14213	N/A	info@wnyca.org

### D. Schools, Daycares & Public Facilities Within 1-Mile Radius

Facility	Address	Phone	Notes
St. Amelia School	2999 Eggert Rd, Tonawanda, NY 14150	(716) 833-3545	Closest school to Sawyer Ave
YMCA – Independent Health Family Branch	150 Tech Dr, Tonawanda, NY 14150	(716) 276-8300	Community center
Sheridan Parkside Youth Center	169 Sheridan Parkside Dr, Tonawanda, NY 14150	(716) 838-1240	Serves EJ-designated area

### E. News Media & Local Press

Media Outlet	Contact	Phone	Email
Buffalo News	Metro Desk	(716) 849-4444	metro@buffnews.com
WGRZ – Channel 2	Newsroom	(716) 849-2220	tips@wgrz.com
WKBW – Channel 7	Newsroom	(716) 845-6100	newsdesk@wkbw.com
WBFO – NPR Buffalo	Newsroom	(716) 829-6000	news@wbfo.org

**F. Adjacent & Nearby Industrial Stakeholders (Sawyer Ave Industrial Corridor)**

Business	Address	Notes
NOCO Energy Corp.	2440 Sheridan Dr, Tonawanda, NY 14150	Fuel storage/distribution
Bennett Manufacturing	300 Sawyer Ave, Tonawanda, NY 14150	Adjacent facility
RRR Contractors, Inc.	228 Sawyer Ave, Tonawanda, NY 14150	Adjacent facility



## APPENDIX B - Virtual Public Meeting

### A. English



#### **Continued Operation of the Used Cooking Oil (UCO) and Yellow Grease Processing Facility**

Buffalo Biodiesel, Inc. has submitted an application to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) for a 6 NYCRR Part 360 Solid Waste Management Facility Permit, Subpart 361-8 permit for the Continued Operation of the Used Cooking Oil (UCO) and Yellow Grease Processing Facility. **A Public Participation Plan has been developed** in accordance with 6 NYCRR 621.3(a)(3). The purpose of this meeting is **to inform the public about the project** and to engage and involve the community early on in the permit application review process.

#### **Join Online (Microsoft Teams)**

Meeting Link:

<https://teams.live.com/join/935269194222?p=RTmDGCePiwbNoSqB1t>

Meeting ID: 935 269 194 222

Password: bB7YW6

#### **Agenda:**

- Background
- Scope of work
- Project schedules
- Community Impacts
- Proposed Mitigation Measures
- Questions and Answers

#### **Your Attendance is Important!**

Project personnel will be available to answer questions from the community.  
For additional information on the proposed project:

Contact: Tanzim Ahsan

Phone: 716-994-1455

Email: [tanzim.ahsan@buffalobiodiesel.com](mailto:tanzim.ahsan@buffalobiodiesel.com)

Visit the repository at:

<https://www.buffalobiodiesel.com/regulatory>

Contact the project liaison to request reasonable accommodation for a disability or interpreter services in a language other than English, so that you can participate in the call and/or to request a translation of any of the event documents into a language other than English.

Buffalo Biodiesel, Inc. | Safety & Compliance Department  
Address: 225 Sawyer Ave, Tonawanda Town, NY-14150 Phone: 800 721-1427  
Website: [www.buffalobiodiesel.com](http://www.buffalobiodiesel.com)

B. Español



**Operación Continua de la Instalación de Procesamiento de Aceite de Cocina Usado (UCO) y Grasa Amarilla**

Buffalo Biodiesel, Inc. ha presentado una solicitud al **Departamento de Conservación Ambiental del Estado de Nueva York (NYSDEC)** para un permiso de 6 NYCRR Parte 360 de Instalaciones de Manejo de Residuos Sólidos, subparte 361-8 para la Operación Continua de la Instalación de Procesamiento de Aceite de Cocina Usado (UCO) y Grasa Amarilla. **Se ha desarrollado un Plan de Participación Pública** de acuerdo con 6 NYCRR 621.3(a)(3). El propósito de esta reunión **es informar al público sobre el proyecto** y promover la participación de la comunidad desde el inicio del proceso de revisión de la solicitud del permiso.

**Para unirse en línea (Microsoft Teams)**

Haga clic en el siguiente enlace:

<https://teams.live.com/joinmeeting/935269194222?p=RTmDGCePiwbNoSqB1t>

ID de la reunión: 935 269 194 222

Contraseña: bB7YW6

**Agenda:**

- Antecedentes
- Alcance del trabajo
- Cronograma del Proyecto
- Impactos en la comunidad
- Medidas de mitigación propuestas
- Preguntas y respuestas

**¡Su participación es importante!**

El personal del proyecto estará disponible para responder preguntas de la comunidad.

Para obtener información adicional sobre el proyecto propuesto:

Contacto: Tanzim Ahsan

Teléfono: 716-994-1455

Correo electrónico: [tanzim.ahsan@buffalobiodiesel.com](mailto:tanzim.ahsan@buffalobiodiesel.com)

Visite el repositorio en:

<https://www.buffalobiodiesel.com/regulatory>

Comuníquese con el enlace del proyecto para solicitar ajustes razonables por discapacidad o servicios de interpretación en un idioma distinto al inglés, de modo que usted pueda participar en la reunión o solicitar una traducción de cualquiera de los documentos del evento a otro idioma.

Buffalo Biodiesel, Inc. | Safety & Compliance Department  
Address: 225 Sawyer Ave, Tonawanda Town, NY-14150 Phone: 800 721-1427  
Website: [www.buffalobiodiesel.com](http://www.buffalobiodiesel.com)

## APPENDIX C – FACT SHEET

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### A. English

**Project / Action Name:**

**Buffalo Biodiesel, Inc. – Used Cooking Oil (UCO) and Yellow Grease Processing Facility Solid Waste Management Permit**

**Applicant: Buffalo Biodiesel, Inc.**

**Facility: Buffalo Biodiesel, Inc.**

**Address: 225 Sawyer Avenue, Tonawanda, NY 14150**

**NYSDEC Application Number: [To be assigned by NYSDEC]**

**A Public Participation Plan (PPP) has been developed in accordance with 6 NYCRR 621.3(a)(3).**

**What is the Proposed Project?**

Buffalo Biodiesel, Inc. is applying for a **6 NYCRR Part 360 Solid Waste Management Facility Permit** for its existing **Used Cooking Oil (UCO) and Yellow Grease Processing Facility** located at 225 Sawyer Avenue in the Town of Tonawanda.

The Facility has operated at this location since 2005 and receives UCO and yellow grease from restaurants and commercial food establishments for processing, storage, and transfer for use in biodiesel production. To implement this permitting action, Buffalo Biodiesel, Inc. has submitted an application to NYSDEC for authorization under **6 NYCRR Subpart 361-8 – Used Cooking Oil and Yellow Grease Processing Facilities**

This fact sheet is provided to inform the public about the proposed permitting action and to involve the surrounding community in the NYSDEC review process.

**Why does Buffalo Biodiesel, Inc. need a Solid Waste Management Facility Permit?**

New York State updated its solid waste regulations to require permits for facilities that process or manage **used cooking oil and yellow grease**. Because Buffalo Biodiesel, Inc. processes quantities exceeding regulatory thresholds, a Part 360 permit is required to continue operating in compliance with NYSDEC regulations.

The purpose of the permit is to ensure proper handling, processing, storage, and transfer of UCO and yellow grease in a manner that protects public health, the environment, and the surrounding community.

**How might the project affect the surrounding community?**

As an existing operation, no construction impacts are anticipated.

Potential operational impacts that are reviewed by NYSDEC include:

- **Truck traffic:** Delivery and transport of UCO occur on established industrial routes along Sawyer Avenue.
- **Odors:** UCO processing tanks are managed with heating, phase separation, and housekeeping practices to minimize odors.
- **Noise:** Normal industrial operational noise is expected; the Facility is located within an industrial corridor.
- **Wastewater:** Process water is pretreated on site and discharged under a Town of Tonawanda Industrial Sewer Connection Permit.
- **Sludge management:** Sludge is dewatered and sent to an approved anaerobic digestion Facility.

The Facility is located within a **New York State–designated Disadvantaged Community (DAC)/Environmental Justice (EJ) Area**, and enhanced public participation is required to ensure that local residents have meaningful opportunities to participate in the review process.

**How can I participate in the permit review process?**

- **Attend the virtual public meeting** scheduled for \_\_\_\_\_ to learn about the project, ask questions, and express concerns.
- **Submit comments, questions, or concerns** to the project contact person by phone, email, or in writing (see below).
- **Participate in the NYSDEC public comment period** once the Notice of Complete Application (NOCA) has been issued.

**Where can I get more information about the proposed project?**

**Online Document Repository:**

<https://www.buffalobiodiesel.com/regulatory>

All application materials, fact sheets, notices, and future updates will be posted here.

**Project Contact (Applicant – Buffalo Biodiesel, Inc.):**

**Name:** Tanzim Ahsan

**Phone:** 716-994-1455

**Email:** [Tanzim.ahsan@buffalobiodiesel.com](mailto:Tanzim.ahsan@buffalobiodiesel.com)

**Mailing Address:** Buffalo Biodiesel, Inc.

225 Sawyer Avenue, Tonawanda, NY 14150

Stakeholders may contact the project liaison for instructions on how to attend the virtual public meeting, questions about the permit application, or requests for translation or language assistance.

**Who is responsible for reviewing the Permit Application?**

**New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC)**

**Region 9 Headquarters**

700 Delaware Avenue

Buffalo, NY 14209

Phone: (716) 851-7165

Email: [DEP.R9@dec.ny.gov](mailto:DEP.R9@dec.ny.gov)

NYSDEC is responsible for reviewing the permit application, issuing the Notice of Complete Application, conducting the public comment period, and making the final permitting decision.

## B. Español

### **Nombre del Proyecto / Acción:**

**Buffalo Biodiesel, Inc. – Permiso de Manejo de Residuos Sólidos para la Instalación de Procesamiento de Aceite de Cocina Usado (UCO) y Grasa Amarilla**

**Solicitante: Buffalo Biodiesel, Inc.**

**Instalación: Buffalo Biodiesel, Inc.**

**Dirección: 225 Sawyer Avenue, Tonawanda, NY 14150**

**Número de Solicitud NYSDEC: [Será asignado por NYSDEC]**

**Se ha desarrollado un Plan de Participación Pública (PPP) de conformidad con 6 NYCRR 621.3(a)(3).**

### **¿Cuál es el Proyecto Propuesto?**

Buffalo Biodiesel, Inc. está solicitando un Permiso de Manejo de Residuos Sólidos conforme a 6 NYCRR Parte 360 para su instalación existente de Procesamiento de Aceite de Cocina Usado (UCO) y Grasa Amarilla ubicada en 225 Sawyer Avenue en el Municipio de Tonawanda.

La instalación ha operado en esta ubicación desde 2005 y recibe UCO y grasa amarilla de restaurantes y establecimientos comerciales de alimentos para su procesamiento, almacenamiento y transferencia para su uso en la producción de biodiésel.

Para implementar esta acción de permiso, Buffalo Biodiesel, Inc. ha presentado una solicitud a NYSDEC para autorización bajo **6 NYCRR Subparte 361-8 – Instalaciones de Procesamiento de Aceite de Cocina Usado y Grasa Amarilla**

Esta hoja informativa se proporciona para informar al público sobre la acción de permiso propuesta y para involucrar a la comunidad circundante en el proceso de revisión de NYSDEC.

### **¿Por qué Buffalo Biodiesel, Inc. necesita un Permiso de Manejo de Residuos Sólidos?**

El Estado de Nueva York actualizó sus regulaciones de residuos sólidos para exigir permisos para instalaciones que procesan o manejan aceite de cocina usado y grasa amarilla.

Debido a que Buffalo Biodiesel, Inc. procesa cantidades que superan los umbrales regulatorios, se requiere un permiso Parte 360 para continuar operando en cumplimiento con las regulaciones de NYSDEC.

El propósito del permiso es garantizar el manejo, procesamiento, almacenamiento y transferencia adecuados del UCO y la grasa amarilla de manera que proteja la salud pública, el medio ambiente y la comunidad circundante.

### **¿Cómo podría el proyecto afectar a la comunidad circundante?**

Como una operación existente, no se anticipan impactos de construcción.

Los posibles impactos operativos revisados por NYSDEC incluyen:

- **Tráfico de camiones:** Las entregas y transporte de UCO ocurren en rutas industriales establecidas a lo largo de Sawyer Avenue.
- **Olores:** Los tanques de procesamiento de UCO se manejan con calentamiento, separación de fases y prácticas de limpieza para minimizar olores.
- **Ruido:** Se espera un nivel de ruido industrial normal; la instalación está ubicada dentro de un corredor industrial.
- **Aguas residuales:** El agua de proceso se pretrata en el sitio y se descarga bajo un Permiso de Conexión de Alcantarillado Industrial del Municipio de Tonawanda.
- **Manejo de lodos:** El lodo se deshidrata y se envía a una instalación aprobada de digestión anaeróbica.

La instalación está ubicada dentro de un **Área Designada como Comunidad Desfavorecida (DAC) / Justicia Ambiental (EJ) por el Estado de Nueva York**, y se requiere participación pública mejorada para garantizar que los residentes locales tengan oportunidades significativas de participar en el proceso de revisión.

**¿Cómo puedo participar en el proceso de revisión del permiso?**

- **Asistir a la reunión pública virtual programada** para el \_\_\_\_\_ para aprender sobre el proyecto, hacer preguntas y expresar inquietudes.
- **Enviar comentarios, preguntas o preocupaciones** al contacto del proyecto por teléfono, correo electrónico o por escrito (ver abajo).
- **Participar en el período de comentarios públicos de NYSDEC** una vez que se haya emitido el Aviso de Solicitud Completa (NOCA).

**¿Dónde puedo obtener más información sobre el proyecto propuesto?**

**Repositorio de Documentos en Línea:**

<https://www.buffalobiodiesel.com/regulatory>

Todos los materiales de la solicitud, hojas informativas, avisos y futuras actualizaciones se publicarán aquí.

**Contacto del Proyecto (Solicitante – Buffalo Biodiesel, Inc.):**

**Nombre:** Tanzim Ahsan

**Teléfono:** 716-994-1455

**Correo electrónico:** [Tanzim.ahsan@buffalobiodiesel.com](mailto:Tanzim.ahsan@buffalobiodiesel.com)

**Dirección postal:** Buffalo Biodiesel, Inc.

225 Sawyer Avenue, Tonawanda, NY 14150

Los interesados pueden comunicarse con el enlace del proyecto para obtener instrucciones sobre cómo asistir a la reunión pública virtual, preguntas sobre la solicitud de permiso o solicitudes de traducción o asistencia lingüística.

**¿Quién es responsable de revisar la solicitud del permiso?**

**Departamento de Conservación Ambiental del Estado de Nueva York (NYSDEC)**

**Región 9 – Oficina Central**

700 Delaware Avenue

Buffalo, NY 14209

Teléfono: (716) 851-7165

Correo electrónico: [DEP.R9@dec.ny.gov](mailto:DEP.R9@dec.ny.gov)

NYSDEC es responsable de revisar la solicitud del permiso, emitir el Aviso de Solicitud Completa (NOCA), llevar a cabo el período de comentarios públicos y tomar la decisión final sobre el permiso.

## APPENDIX D – Physical Repositories

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### 1. Buffalo Biodiesel, Inc. Corporate Office

A copy of the PPP will be kept with HR at the company's corporate office. Any interested party can call, email, or walk into the corporate office and ask for our HR Manager, Sami Shaikh, who will maintain the copy and answer any questions.

**Address:** 17 Court Street, Buffalo, NY 14202  
**POC:** Sami Shaikh  
**Phone:** (800) 721-1427  
**Email:** [sami.shaikh@buffalobiodiesel.com](mailto:sami.shaikh@buffalobiodiesel.com)  
**Office Hours:** Monday–Friday, 9:00 AM–5:00 PM

### 2. Buffalo Biodiesel, Inc. Tonawanda Facility

A copy will be available with Tom George, COO, at the plant. If an interested party visits the facility or sets an appointment to review the PPP, Tom will have the document on his desk and can answer any questions.

**Address:** 225 Sawyer Ave, Tonawanda Town, NY 14150  
**POC:** Tom George  
**Phone:** (800) 721-1427  
**Email:** [tom.george@buffalobiodiesel.com](mailto:tom.george@buffalobiodiesel.com)  
**Office Hours:** Monday–Friday, 9:00 AM–5:00 PM

### 3. Town Hall, Town of Tonawanda

A copy will be preserved in her office. Interested parties may walk in or schedule an appointment to review the PPP.

**Address:** 2919 Delaware Ave., Kenmore, NY 14217  
**POC:** Marguerite Greco, Town Clerk  
**Phone:** 716-877-8800  
**Email:** [mgreco@tonawanda.ny.us](mailto:mgreco@tonawanda.ny.us)

### 4. Erie County Public Library

The library has a public document viewing section. Anyone can walk in or ask at reception to view the PPP.

**Address:** 1 Lafayette Square, Buffalo, NY 14203  
**POC:** April Tompkins, Sr. Library Clerk  
**Phone:** 716-858-7129  
**Email:** [tompkinsa@buffalolib.org](mailto:tompkinsa@buffalolib.org)

They also indicated they can make the document available across all 36 libraries in their system, and request that all submissions go through their main office. Town of Tonawanda Library is also a part of the 36-library system.

**5. Town of Tonawanda Public Library**

**Address:** 160 Delaware Rd., Kenmore, NY 14217

**POC:** Nicole Bermingham, Branch Manager

**Phone:** 716-873-2842

**Email:** [berminghamn@buffalolib.org](mailto:berminghamn@buffalolib.org)



## APPENDIX E – Past Public Meeting Summary

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### Meeting Purpose

This public participation virtual meeting was conducted by Buffalo Biodiesel, Inc. in accordance with the requirements of New York State Department of Environmental Conservation relating to continued operation of their Used Cooking Oil and Yellow Grease Processing Facility. The meeting was held on 29<sup>th</sup> December 2025 at 10:00 AM EST over Microsoft Teams. This document contains information of the attendees, stakeholders, questions and responses, and a repository link for the recorded meeting footage and presentation slides.

Buffalo Biodiesel, Inc. invited 113 parties that included community members and businesses within a 1-mile radius, and concerned stakeholders of the Buffalo Biodiesel, Inc. processing plant located at 225 Swayer Avenue, Tonawanda NY. Additionally, members of the upper management of Buffalo Biodiesel, Inc. were present.

Meeting recording and presentation material are available at

<https://www.buffalobiodiesel.com/regulatory>

### Attendees

The following table lists all the attendees present at the virtual meeting

Name	Provided Affiliation/ Title
Razul Sayem	Lead Engineer BBD
Deborah J. Chadsey	Environmental Attorney
Alexander Simone	BTPM NPR
Guest 1	Did not provide
Sami	Human Resources BBD
Dante Richardson	VP of growth BBD
Kimberly Ferris	Attorney BBD
Guest 2	IT
Austin Enders	Did not provide
Scott Yerger	CSO BBD
William Ruiz	VP BBD
Martha Howard	Controller BBD
Jeffrey Majka	Office Manager BBD
Andrew Szpylman	Accountant BBD
Tanzim Ahsan	Compliance Engineer BBD

## Questions, comments and responses

1. Are you already compliant and haven't been approved at the DEC, if so to what extent? (Asked for clarification)

Response: DEC changed the rules and regulations recently, and we have put in \$1.3 million for plant upgrades after we were notified. So, we are currently trying/ in the process to meet the compliance requirements that we were notified of by the DEC.

2. How difficult is it for Buffalo Biodiesel, Inc. to acquire the permit?

Response: Any state permit comes with a lot of regulations. So, we are trying to go over each requirement, and being constantly in contact with DEC. Not a difficult process, but very lengthy and thorough. That's why we got engineers on board not only to get us through the permitting process, but also to maintain compliance and operating consistent with DEC requirements.



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