

**Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) Regulation – Update
August 13, 2001**

- # The existing regulations were issued in the mid 1970's.
 - Defined which operations are CAFOs.
 - Established Technology Based Performance Standards for New and Existing Facilities.
- # Existing regulations do not explicitly address environmental concerns such as pollutant runoff from land application fields and discharges to surface water via groundwater with a direct hydrologic connection.
- # Proposed revisions to existing regulations were published on January 12, 2001.
- # The public comment period ended on July 30, 2001. EPA received over 8,000 comments on the proposed rule.
- # Selected data submitted to the Agency during the comment period and clarifications of the proposed rule will be published in the Federal Register Schedule in a Notice of Data Availability (NODA) in November 2001.
- # **Schedule**

Publication of NODA	October 2001
NODA comment period closes (45 days)	December 2001
Pre-option selection briefings	January 2002
Draft Final Rule	July 2002
OMB review (90 days)	August 2002
Administrator signature of Final Rule	December 2002
Publication in Federal Register	January 2003
- # The effluent guidelines for CAFOs are being developed under a court ordered schedule. The Administrator must take final action on these regulations by December 15, 2002.
 - EPA intends to finalize the NPDES permitting regulations at the same time as the effluent guidelines are finalized.