

For Immediate Release
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SWINE FARM OPERATOR FINED \$5,000 FOR ONTARIO WATER RESOURCES ACT VIOLATION

BLLENHEIM—Dan Bolton, a swine farm operator, has been fined \$5,000, plus a victim fine surcharge, after pleading guilty to one count of failing to comply with a Provincial Officer's Order.

Dan Bolton operates a swine farm on Oakdale Road in the Municipality of Chatham-Kent. Liquid pig manure is stored under three swine barns prior to being pumped or gravity fed to either of two outside storage tanks.

The Court heard that in 2002 a Ministry of the Environment Provincial Officer inspected Bolton's farm, after receiving information regarding the discharge of liquid pig manure from the farm.

On December 18, 2002, a Provincial Officer's Order was issued to Bolton requiring him to remove all manure from the on-site storage tanks and spread it on available land, as per normal farming practices. Bolton failed to comply by the deadline given in the first order, as well as by deadlines given in two subsequent orders.

Following an investigation conducted by the ministry's Investigations and Enforcement Branch, a charge was laid.

Dan Bolton pleaded guilty to one count of failing to comply with a Provincial Officer's Order—a violation of section 107(2) of the *Ontario Water Resources Act*. He was fined \$5,000 for the offence.

Bolton had complied with the Provincial Officer's Order prior to his plea.

Justice of the Peace Robert P. Ponton sentenced Dan Bolton on August 21, 2006 in the Ontario Court of Justice in Blenheim.

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