Date of Application: _____

Section 7. Equipment and Infrastructure Grants

Commercial farms that have DACF-confirmed elevated levels of PFAS may apply to DACF for grant funding for equipment and infrastructure projects that will help the commercial farm modify production methods or transition to the production of new farm products in order to minimize the risk of PFAS contamination. Equipment and infrastructure grants over $100,000 are governed by rule 01-001 CMR c. 403 (2026).

Questions about equipment and infrastructure grants valued up to $100,000 may be directed to Meagan Hennessey, PFAS Response Director, at Meagan.Hennessey@maine.gov or (207) 592-3795. Questions about equipment and infrastructure grants valued above $100,000 may be directed to Beth Valentine, PFAS Fund Director, at Beth.Valentine@maine.gov or (207) 313-0962.

Required Documentation – Section 7

The following information must be submitted with this Section of the application:

A. Section 1 - General Information and all specified attachments

B. Project Narrative. A statement, one page or less, describing and explaining:

- The proposed equipment and/or infrastructure;
- Description of the impacts PFAS contamination has had on the farm, specific to equipment and/or infrastructure needs;
- A description of the specific problem the equipment and/or infrastructure seeks to address (justification);
- A justification for the specifically chosen equipment (including product type and model chosen) and/or specific infrastructure element(s); and
- The anticipated result/outcome achieved by receiving this assistance from DACF.

C. If requesting a direct reimbursement, provide proof of payment

D. Supporting documentation, such as:

- A business plan that illustrates how the requested equipment and/or infrastructure will contribute to the farm's long-term viability (business plans are advisable for all applicants and are required for all requests above $100,000);
- For equipment, necessary specifications;
- For infrastructure, building plans and/or engineering drawings; and
- Cost quotes or estimates with relevant details from three vendors; and
- For infrastructure, contractor details, including a Statement of Qualifications, from three contractors.

E. Any additional supporting documentation requested by DACF that DACF determines is necessary to review the request for assistance.

Additional Information Requested – Section 7

1. Total amount of support requested in Section 7: $ _____

2. Payment Preference – please check which one is requested:

☐ Applicant will pay project costs and DACF will reimburse upon proof of purchase

☐ DACF contracts with and pays applicant's approved vendors/contractors

☐ DACF reimburses a nonprofit for payment of approved project costs made on the applicant's behalf

Terms and Conditions of an Equipment or Infrastructure Grant

By applying for an equipment or infrastructure grant, the applicant agrees to the following conditions:

- The grantee will continue to ensure that the equipment or infrastructure purchased is maintained in a safe condition and in good repair.
- DACF has the sole discretion to determine if expenditures are reasonable and prudent, and whether the grantee has complied with these terms and conditions and all applicable laws, rules, and regulations.
- The State shall have no responsibility for the use, maintenance, or fitness of the equipment or infrastructure.
- The grantee agrees not to assign, transfer, lease or encumber its rights or obligations under the agreement without DACF's prior written consent. The grantee shall indemnify, defend, save and hold the State and its employees harmless from and against any claims, losses, liabilities, costs, expenses, damages, or other obligations of any nature in any way arising out of the use, operation, maintenance, or repair of the equipment or infrastructure.
- The grantee must retain ownership and use the equipment or infrastructure for a period consistent with the relevant recovery period for standard farming assets as depicted in Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Publication 225 (Farmer's Tax Guide), Table 7-1, Farm Property Recovery Periods[1]; or the grantee must notify DACF in writing within 30 days of any sale, trade, destruction, or abandonment of equipment or infrastructure purchased under the equipment or infrastructure grant program if such sale, trade, destruction, or abandonment occurs within the relevant recovery period for standard farming assets as depicted in IRS Publication 225 (Farmer's Tax Guide), Table 7-1, Farm Property Recovery Periods[1].
- If the equipment or infrastructure is sold, traded, abandoned, or destroyed within the relevant recovery period noted above, DACF may seek reimbursement from the grantee for the remaining value of the equipment or infrastructure as calculated using generally accepted accounting principles. In deciding whether to seek reimbursement, DACF will consider whether the events leading to the sale, trade, abandonment, or destruction were within the grantee's control and will not penalize

[1] Department of the Treasury, Internal Revenue Service. *Farmer's Tax Guide*. Publication 225, Cat. No. 11049L. This resource is available at https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p225.pdf (last visited July 23, 2026).

grantees for forces beyond their control. Failure to provide reimbursement, if demanded, will render the grant recipient ineligible for future assistance from DACF.

- The State may inspect any equipment, facilities or infrastructure funded through an equipment or infrastructure grant at any time within the relevant recovery period.
- All grantees will purchase and maintain insurance to cover the value of the equipment or infrastructure from loss during the relevant recovery period.

Payment Restrictions

DACF may pay for equipment and infrastructure costs directly related to a commercial farm's response to PFAS contamination. DACF will not pay for a commercial farm's equipment or infrastructure costs associated with routine operations unrelated to PFAS response.

Application Review – Section 7

Evaluation criteria, regardless of cost, may include but not be limited to the degree to which the farm has been negatively impacted by PFAS, likelihood of success, return on investment, total cost, timing, alternative options, level of risk, producer's demonstrated lack of available financial capacity, number of other requests for DACF support by the applicant and by other producers, and the farm's capacity and commitment to continue farming on the impacted property. Additionally, DACF will consider all available information it has compiled on the farm to assess the request. DACF reserves the right to request any additional supporting documentation that is necessary to evaluate the request for assistance.

Applications for projects valued up to $100,000 will be reviewed by the PFAS Response Director. The PFAS Response Director may request staff input based on staff's knowledge of the applicant's operations. Decision-making authority for projects valued up to $100,000 rests with the PFAS Response Director.

Applications for projects valued above $100,000 will be reviewed by an ad-hoc application review panel that will be established by the DACF Commissioner and, at a minimum, will be composed of DACF PFAS Response staff, and a case-specific expert based on the scope or type of project. (e.g., dairy, water, finance). The role of the application review panel is to advise DACF on the merits of proposals. Decision-making authority for projects valued above $100,000 rests with the PFAS Fund Director.

DACF reserves the right to limit funding for all requests based on available resources and the evaluation criteria listed above.

(Signature Block for Section 7 on next page)

Signature Block – Section 7

Agreement to Terms and Conditions of an Equipment or Infrastructure Grant

By submitting this application for an Equipment or Infrastructure Grant, the undersigned agrees to these Terms and Conditions. I certify that the information given in this Equipment and Infrastructure Grants application is correct and complete to the best of my knowledge. I acknowledge that payments may represent reportable income for tax purposes.

Applicant's Signature	Date
Applicant's Name (printed)	Title
Applicant's Signature	Date
Applicant's Name (printed)	Title

Please complete if someone assisted the applicant to complete this form:

Preparer Name (If not applicant)	Preparer's relationship to applicant

Permission to discuss application with Preparer: ☐ YES ☐ NO