Date of Application: _____

Section 8. New Loan Assistance

Commercial farms that have DACF-confirmed elevated levels of PFAS may apply to DACF for a grant to assist with the cost of obtaining a guaranteed loan, commercial loan insurance, or environmental site assessments when a lending institution requires one or more of these products because of PFAS contamination. New Loan Assistance is governed by rule 01-001 CMR c. 404 (2026).

Questions about New Loan Assistance Grants may be directed to Beth Valentine, PFAS Fund Director, at Beth.Valentine@maine.gov or (207) 313-0962.

Required Documentation – Section 8:

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

A. Section 1. General Information and all specified attachments

B. A narrative, one-page or less, which includes the following information:

- The purpose and amount of the loan being sought,
- How the need for the loan relates to the presence of PFAS on your property,
- The name of the lending institution,
- The particular support you are seeking, e.g., fees to cover the cost of commercial loan insurance, and
- Total amount of support requested.

C. Supporting documentation, such as:

- A completed loan application,
- A statement from a lender identifying fees, and/or
- A statement from a commercial lender advising the applicant that a Phase I and/or Phase II environmental site assessment (ESA) is required before the lender will act on the applicant's loan application.

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

Application Review and Payment Restrictions – Section 8

DACF will not make any payments under this Chapter (i) for costs associated with the investigation of contaminants other than PFAS, (ii) to pay interest or reduce the principal on a commercial farm's loan, or (iii) associated with a commercial farm's acquisition of a new property. DACF may pay for the cost of a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment when a lender needs the study to make a lending decision. DACF may pay for a Phase II Environmental Site Assessment when the Phase I Environmental Site Assessment identifies the need for further PFAS investigation.

DACF payments to a lender or insurance company shall be in accordance with that entity's published fees.

Where a third-party entity has paid an expense associated with the acquisition of a new loan on behalf of a PFAS-impacted farm and DACF has an existing reimbursement agreement with that third-party entity, DACF is authorized to reimburse the third-party entity according to the same terms described herein.

New Loan Assistance Application Review

Evaluation criteria 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.

Applications will be reviewed by DACF's PFAS Fund Director. The PFAS Fund Director may request staff input based on the staff's knowledge of the applicant's operations. DACF will rely on 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. Decision-making authority 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 – Section 8

I certify that the information given in this New Loan Assistance 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