(a) The Commission shall develop a Violation Points System applicable to permits for animal waste management systems for swine farms. This system shall operate in addition to the provisions of G.S. 143-215.6A. This system shall not alter the authority of the Commission to revoke a permit for an animal waste management system for a swine farm. The Violation Points System shall provide that:

(1) Violations that involve the greatest harm to the natural resources of the State, the groundwater or surface water quantity or quality, public health, or the environment shall receive the most points and shall be considered significant violations.

(2) Violations that are committed willfully or intentionally shall be considered significant violations.

(3) The number of points received shall be directly related to the degree of negligence or willfulness.

(4) The commission of three significant violations, or the commission of lesser violations that result in a predetermined cumulative number of points, within a limited period of time of not less than five years shall result in the mandatory revocation of a permit.

(5) The commission of one willful violation that results in serious harm may result in the revocation of a permit.

(b) In developing the Violation Points System under this section, the Commission shall determine the:

(1) Number of points that lesser violations must cumulatively total to result in the revocation of a permit.

(2) Limited period of time during which the commission of three significant violations, or the commission of a greater number of lesser violations, will result in the revocation of the operator’s permit. This limited period of time shall not be less than five years.

(3) Duration of the permit revocation.

(4) Conditions under which the person whose permit is revoked may reapply for another permit for an animal waste management system for a swine farm.

(c) In developing the Violation Points System under this section, the Commission shall provide for an appeals process.

(1997-458, s. 10.1.)