

# Environment Agency permitting decisions

## Standard rule permit

We have decided to grant the permit for Nutrel Products operated by Nutrel Products Limited.

The permit number is EPR/SP3937RL.

It is a Standard Rules SR2009No2 Low Impact Part A Installation:

The low impact installation produces bespoke chemical fertiliser blends for feeding mainly to crops, fruits, ornamentals and turf.

We consider in reaching that decision we have taken into account all relevant considerations and legal requirements and that the permit will ensure that the appropriate level of environmental protection is provided.

## Purpose of this document

This decision document:

- explains how the application has been determined
- provides a record of the decision-making process
- shows how all relevant factors have been taken into account.

## Structure of this document

- Key issues
- Annex 1 the decision checklist

## The main features of the installation

Fertiliser production is carried out within the main production buildings. This process comprises:

- All liquid product processing in the primary processing area;
- Decanting goods as finished product (200 litre drums and 1000 litre intermediate bulk containers (IBC)); and
- Intermediate packaging for containers destined for the bottling plant (1000 litre containers)

## **Key issues of the decision**

### **Site condition report**

The Nutrel Products site is approximately 19,470 m<sup>2</sup> in size. The site is situated at the end of a small residential road on the A56, roughly halfway between Lincoln and Gainsborough. The closest residential receptors are a row of houses on the land down to the site from the A57, the nearest of which is approximately 35m from the west boundary of the installation.

The site is surrounded on three sides by a brook running into Border Drain. The site is not within a groundwater source protection zone. Environment Agency mapping indicates that the installation is within flood zone 2. The site overlies a secondary aquifer.

The site condition report states that there is no known history of pollution on the site and that there is no visual or olfactory evidence of existing contamination to the land. The main manufacturing buildings were purpose-built for the current businesses in 2000. The previous use of the land was as a poultry farm and grain store.

### **Containment**

The manufacturing building has two roller doors installed for forklift truck access. Both of the doors have threshold seals. These allow access to and from the building, but minimise the risk of escape of liquids to external ground areas in the event of a spillage.

The activity area has a dedicated internal gully and drain built into the floor, linked solely to the effluent system. This drain is also the main egress point for vessel clean-down waters.

Small amounts of chemical liquids and dyes are kept within the production area. These are stored inside IBC containers.

The loading / unloading area is within a sealed drainage system within cambered concrete areas running to sealed kerbstones. There are spill kits and clay drain clovers to prevent spills reaching surface water drains.

The site is surrounded by a brook. The perimeter of the primary production buildings that are in proximity to the brook is fully kerbed. There are a number of surface water drain outlets which are capped so that routine release does not occur. Rainwater build up will be allowed to drain from the site.

The externally situated 35,000 litre effluent holding tank holds all site waste effluent, which is then removed by a specialist waste carrier. The tank stands within a fully bunded concrete floor area, with surrounding block-wall. Both the floor and walls are coated with a plastic-modified and hydraulically-setting powder, providing a seal. The wall is set into the floor itself, using steel supports as added reinforcements against a sudden liquid release. The bund provides a capacity of greater than 110% of the tank total volume. There are steel barriers in place as vehicle crash protection.

Fuel oil is kept on three separate storage tanks on site (2 x 2000 litre and 1 x 5000 litre). These are all self-bunded and inspected regularly. Ground fixed steel barriers provide protection from vehicle movements.

Phosphoric acid is decanted by tanker into a 9000 litre internal fixed tank that is positioned inside a bund wall. The tank is integrity checked on an annual basis using sonar testing. The outer bund wall is checked on a monthly basis for integrity.

### **Accident management**

A spillage procedure is in place and spill containment kits are present on site. Spillage training is undertaken by employees.

In the event of a major spill anywhere on site, the penstock valve controlling emissions from the surface water management system will be isolated.

### **Operating techniques**

The operator will incorporate the following operational techniques to minimise environmental risk:

- The site has an Environmental Management System in place.
- A preventative maintenance programme is in place.

We consider the risks to be low from the operations carried out at the site.

## Annex 1: decision checklist

This checklist should be read in conjunction with the Duly Making checklist the application and supporting information and permit/notice.

| Aspect                       | Justification / Detail   | Criteria met |
|------------------------------|--|--------------|
|                              |  | Yes          |
| <b>Receipt of submission</b> |  |              |
| Standard rules criteria met  | <p>The application meets the criteria for the standard rules identified in Part B of the application form.</p> <p>Standard Rules SR2009No2 Low Impact Part A Installation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The activities are not carried out on or immediately adjacent to a European Site, Ramsar Site, Site of Special Scientific interest (SSSI), National Nature reserve, Local Nature Reserve or Ancient Woodland</li> <li>• There is no direct discharge of aqueous waste within 10 kilometres upstream of a European Site, Ramsar Site or a SSSI, within 100 metres upstream of a National Nature Reserve, Local Nature Reserve or Ancient Woodland, or within a National Park</li> <li>• Maximum aqueous effluent produced during March 2015 was an average of 0.2m<sup>3</sup> per day.</li> <li>• The maximum energy use rate was 0.4MW in 2014.</li> <li>• All ventilation is local exhaust ventilation (LEV) to work areas.</li> <li>• There are no planned emissions to ground.</li> <li>• There is little potential for noise or odour to arise from the process at a level which would cause pollution outside of the installation boundary.</li> </ul> | ✓            |
| <b>Advertising</b>           |  |              |
| Responses to web publicising | <p>The responses to web publicising were taken into account in the decision. The decision was taken in accordance with our guidance.</p> <p>The application was publicised on our website for 20 working days, no comments on the application were received in response.</p>   | ✓            |
| <b>The site</b>              |  |              |

| Aspect                                   | Justification / Detail   | Criteria met |
|--|--|--------------|
|  |  | Yes          |
| Extent of the site of the facility       | <p>The operator has provided a plan which we consider is satisfactory, showing the extent of the site of the facility.</p> <p>A plan is included in the permit and the operator is required to carry on the permitted activities within the site boundary.</p> | ✓            |
| Site condition report or baseline report | <p>The operator has provided a satisfactory site condition report (SCR).</p> <p>See key issues section for further information.</p>  | ✓            |
| <b>Operator competence</b>               |  |              |
| Relevant Convictions                     | <p>The National Enforcement Database has been checked to ensure that all relevant convictions have been declared.</p> <p>No relevant convictions were found.</p> <p>The operator satisfies the criteria outlined in our guidance on operator competence.</p>   | ✓            |
| Financial provision                      | <p>There is no known reason to consider that the operator will not be financially able to comply with the standard rules. The decision was taken in accordance with our guidance on competence.</p>  | ✓            |