

Permitting decisions

Bespoke permit

We have decided to grant the permit for Barn Farm Poultry Unit operated by Cobb Europe Limited

The permit number is EPR/NP3135JA

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 provides a record of the decision making process. It:

- highlights key issues in the determination
- summarises the decision making process in the <u>decision checklist</u> to show how all relevant factors have been taken into account
- shows how we have considered the consultation responses.

Unless the decision document specifies otherwise we have accepted the applicant's proposals.

Read the permitting decisions in conjunction with the environmental permit. The introductory note summarises what the permit covers.

EPR/NP3135JA/A001 Date issued: 16/01/19

1

Key issues of the decision

Introduction

This is a determination of a new intensive farming broiler breeder installation. The farm existed previously with 39,000 broiler breeder under EPR threshold of broiler breeders. The Operator has built new poultry houses on the existing site to create an installation for 51,000 broiler breeders.

New Intensive Rearing of Poultry and Poultry BAT Conclusions document

The new Best Available Techniques (BAT) Reference Document (BREF) for the Intensive Rearing of poultry or pigs (IRPP) was published on the 21st February 2017. There is now a separate BAT Conclusions document which will set out the standards that permitted farms will have to meet.

The BAT Conclusions document is as per the following link

http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32017D0302&from=EN

Now the BAT Conclusions are published all new installation farming permits issued after the 21st February 2017 must be compliant in full from the first day of operation.

There are some new requirements for permit holders. The conclusions include BAT Associated Emission Levels for ammonia emissions which will apply to the majority of permits, as well as BAT associated levels for nitrogen and phosphorous excretion.

For some types of rearing practices stricter standards will apply to farms and housing permitted after the new BAT Conclusions are published.

New BAT conclusions review

There are 34 BAT conclusion measures in total within the BAT conclusion document dated 21st February 2017.

We sent out a not duly made request, requiring the Applicant to confirm that the new installation complies in full with all the BAT conclusion measures.

The Applicant confirmed their compliance with all BAT conditions for the new installation in their duly making application responses (documents dated 23/11/18 and 09/12/18)

The following is a more specific review of the measures the Applicant has applied to ensure compliance with the above key BAT measures

BAT measure	Applicant compliance measure
BAT 3 - Nutritional management Nitrogen excretion	Applicant will operate a multiphase feeding strategy. There is no Nitrogen excretion emission limit for broiler breeders
BAT 4 Nutritional management Phosphorous excretion	Applicant will operate a multiphase feeding strategy. There is no Phosphorous excretion emission limit for broiler breeders
BAT 25 Monitoring of emissions and process parameters - Ammonia emissions	Table S3.3 Process monitoring requires the operator to undertake relevant monitoring that complies with the BAT Ammonia monitoring will be in form of usage of standard emission factors.
BAT 26 Monitoring of emissions and process parameters - Odour emissions	The installation has an odour management plan and will implement daily site tours.
BAT 27 Monitoring of emissions and process parameters	Table S3.3 Process monitoring requires the Applicant to undertake relevant monitoring that complies with this BAT conclusion. The

BAT measure	Applicant compliance measure
-Dust emissions	Applicant will utilise standard dust emission factors.
BAT 31 Ammonia emissions from poultry houses	For broiler breeders there are no relevant BAT AEL for ammonia.
- Broiler Breeders	The applicant has confirmed they will meet BAT 31 b 5 narrative BAT requirement i.e.
	To reduce ammonia emissions to air from each house the operators are using forced drying of litter using indoor air being generally applicable for broiler breeders in houses with solid floors and deep litter.

Industrial Emissions Directive (IED)

The Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2013 were made on the 20 February and came into force on 27 February 2013. These Regulations transpose the requirements of the IED.

This permit implements the requirements of the European Union Directive on Industrial Emissions.

Groundwater and soil monitoring

As a result of the requirements of the Industrial Emissions Directive, all permits are now required to contain a condition relating to protection of soil, groundwater and groundwater monitoring. However, the Environment Agency's H5 Guidance states **that it is only necessary for the operator to take samples** of soil or groundwater and measure levels of contamination where there is evidence that there is, or could be existing contamination and:

- The environmental risk assessment has identified that the same contaminants are a particular hazard; or
- The environmental risk assessment has identified that the same contaminants are a hazard and the risk assessment has identified a possible pathway to land or groundwater.

H5 Guidance further states that it is **not essential for the Operator** to take samples of soil or groundwater and measure levels of contamination where:

- The environmental risk assessment identifies no hazards to land or groundwater; or
- Where the environmental risk assessment identifies only limited hazards to land and groundwater and there is no reason to believe that there could be historic contamination by those substances that present the hazard; or
- Where the environmental risk assessment identifies hazards to land and groundwater but there is evidence that there is no historic contamination by those substances that pose the hazard.

The site condition report (SCR) for Barn Farm Poultry Unit (dated November 2017) demonstrates that there are no hazards or likely pathway to land or groundwater and no historic contamination on site that may present a hazard from the same contaminants. This was revised to take into account reduced installation boundary to accommodate five rather than original ten poultry houses. **Therefore**, **on the basis of the risk assessment presented in the SCR**, we accept that they have not provided base line reference data for the soil and groundwater at the site at this stage.

Odour

Intensive farming is by its nature a potentially odorous activity. This is recognised in our 'How to Comply with your Environmental Permit for Intensive Farming' EPR 6.09 guidance (http://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/297084/geho0110brsb-e-e.pdf).

Condition 3.3 of the environmental permit reads as follows:

"Emissions from the activities shall be free from odour at levels likely to cause pollution outside the site, as perceived by an authorised officer of the Environment Agency, unless the operator has used appropriate measures, including, but not limited to, those specified in any approved odour management plan, to prevent or where that is not practicable to minimise the odour."

Under section 3.3 of the guidance an Odour Management Plan (OMP) is required to be approved as part of the permitting process, if as is the case here, sensitive receptors (sensitive receptors in this instance excludes properties associated with the farm) are within 400m of the Installation boundary. It is appropriate to require an OMP when such sensitive receptors have been identified within 400m of the installation to prevent, or where that is not practicable, to minimise the risk of pollution from odour emissions.

The risk assessment for the Installation provided with the Application lists key potential risks of odour pollution beyond the Installation boundary. These activities are as follows:

- Poultry production to including: cleaning out, feed storage and filling of silos, animal movement and use
 of machinery
- Disposal of carcasses
- Litter/ dirty water spreading
- Dirty water tanks

Odour Management Plan Review

An odour management plan was submitted as part of the permit application because there are sensitive receptors within 400m of the installation boundary. Odour has been risk assessed in line with H1. There are a total of four relevant sensitive receptors within the 400 metre criteria; however the closest is approximately 150 metres from the installation boundary at National Grid Reference TG 08683 19045 and the others approximately between 300 and 400 metres from the installation boundary.

A revised OMP was requested from the operator to provide clarity on the definitive list of sensitive receptors within 400m of the installation boundary.

The final odour management plan, dated 23/11/18, details how activities on site will be managed to control odour in particular the delivery of feed and stock, litter management and dirty water management. The OMP outlines a complaints procedure should there be any complaints and the odour management plan will be reviewed every year or earlier if there are substantiated complaints.

We are therefore satisfied that operations on site will reduce the risk of odour pollution and we consider the site not to be at high risk of odour pollution

Noise

Intensive farming by its nature involves activities that have the potential to cause noise pollution. This is recognised in our 'How to Comply with your Environmental Permit for Intensive Farming' EPR 6.09 guidance. Under section 3.4 of this guidance a Noise Management Plan (NMP) must be approved as part of the permitting determination, if are relevant sensitive receptors (excluding farmer/farmer workers owned buildings) within 400m of the Installation boundary.

Condition 3.4 of the Permit reads as follows:

Emissions from the activities shall be free from noise and vibration at levels likely to cause pollution outside the site, as perceived by an authorised officer of the Environment Agency, unless the operator has used appropriate measures, including, but not limited to, those specified in any approved noise and vibration management plan, to prevent or where that is not practicable to minimise the noise and vibration.

There are sensitive receptors within 400 metres of the Installation boundary (see previous section on 'Odour' listing sensitive receptors). The Operator has provided a noise management plan (NMP) as part of the Application supporting documentation.

The risk assessment for the Installation provided with the Application lists key potential risks of noise pollution beyond the Installation boundary. These activities are as follows: poultry clean out, feed, use of machinery and litter/dirty water spreading.

We have assessed the NMP submitted with the application and the H1 risk assessment for noise and conclude that the Applicant has followed the guidance set out in EPR 6.09 Appendix 5 'Noise management at intensive

livestock installations'. We are satisfied that all sources and receptors have been identified, and that the proposed mitigation measures will minimise the risk of noise pollution / nuisance.

Noise Management Plan Review

The plan was received as part of the permit application. Operations likely to cause noise pollution are assessed and include: feeding, clean out, deliveries, litter loading and spreading. The noise management plan outlines control measures that will be taken to reduce any noise impact.

As for noise, the residences occupied by the farm manager and people associated with the farm are not considered as sensitive receptors as it is unlikely that noise will be perceived as a nuisance.

There is the potential for noise from the installation beyond the installation boundary. However the risk of noise beyond the installation boundary is considered unlikely to cause a nuisance.

A revised NMP was requested from the operator to provide clarity on the definitive list of sensitive receptors within 400m of the installation boundary. The closest relevant receptor is 150 metres from the installation boundary. The Operator final NMP is dated 23/11/18.

Conclusion

We have assessed the NMP and the H1 risk assessment for noise and conclude that the Applicant has followed the guidance set out in EPR 6.09 Appendix 5 'Noise management at intensive livestock installations'. We are satisfied that all sources and receptors have been identified, and that the proposed mitigation measures will minimise the risk of noise pollution / nuisance.

Dust and Bio aerosols

The use of Best Available Techniques and good practice will ensure minimisation of emissions. There are measures included within the Permit (the 'Fugitive Emissions' conditions) to provide a level of protection. Condition 3.2.1 'Emissions of substances not controlled by an emission limit' is included in the Permit. This is used in conjunction with condition 3.2.2 which states that in the event of fugitive emissions causing pollution following commissioning of the Installation, the Operator is required to undertake a review of site activities, provide an emissions management plan and to undertake any mitigation recommended as part of that report, once agreed in writing with the Environment Agency.

The final site plan led to a relevant receptor within 10 metres of the installation boundary at National Grid Reference TG08791 18874. Therefore a dust management plan is required. However to provide robust controls the Operator has produced a dust management plan (DMP), dated 03/01/19 with additional controls as discussed below.

Guidance on our website concludes that applicants need to produce and submit a dust and bio aerosol management plan with their applications only if there are relevant receptors within 100 metres of their farm, e.g. the farmhouse or farm worker's houses. Details can be found via the link below:

www.gov.uk/guidance/intensive-farming-risk-assessment-for-your-environmental-permit#air-emissions-dust-and-bioaerosols.

In the guidance mentioned above it states that particulate concentrations fall off rapidly with distance from the emitting source. This fact, together with the proposed good management of the Installation such as keeping areas clean from build-up of dust, and other measures in place to reduce dust and risk of spillages (e.g. litter and feed management/delivery procedures) all reduce the potential for emissions impacting the nearest receptors.

The DMP additional measures the Operator has employed are under four headings as follows:

- Additional measures to be implemented from day 1 to minimize risk of dust pollution from normal farm operations (attention to cyclones on feed silos .litter management and maintenance/cleaning procedures including poultry house roof cleaning procedures to minimize risk of dust built up).
- Additional Actions as Part of Contingency and Emergency Plans. A contingency plan has been added
 covering abnormal operating scenarios with potential for elevated dust emissions and controls in place
 to minimize risk of pollution beyond the installation boundary. Specific scenarios when contingency plans

are actioned and timeframes when Emergency Plans are activated. Specific longer term emergency plan actions have been listed, in event of immediate contingency plan measures not successful, to minimize risk of dust pollution.

• Facility location review – Feed bin storage facilities located as far from installation boundary as possible and away from nearest receptor and shielded by poultry buildings and gable end fans located on the east facing gable end of all poultry houses – maximising the buffer distance from the sensitive receptors to the south of the site with closest receptor.

Conclusion

We are satisfied that the measures outlined in the Application will minimise the potential for dust and bio aerosol emissions from the Installation.

Ammonia

There are two European/Ramsar Sites within the 5 km screening distance.

There are six SSSI's and sixteen Local Wildlife Sites and Ancient Woodlands within the relevant screening distances.

<u>Ammonia assessment – SAC/SPA/Ramsar</u>

The following trigger thresholds have been designated for the assessment of European sites:

- If the process contribution (PC) is below 4% of the relevant critical level (CLe) or critical load (CLo) then the farm can be permitted with no further assessment.
- Where this threshold is exceeded an assessment alone and in combination is required.
- An in combination assessment will be completed to establish the combined PC for all existing farms identified within 5 km of the SAC/SPA/Ramsar.

Screening using detailed modelling received 15/10/18 has determined that the PC on the Norfolk Valley Fens SAC for ammonia emissions from the application site are under the 4% significance threshold and can be screened out as having no likely significant effect. See results below.

Table 1 - Ammonia emissions

Site	Critical level ammonia µg/m³	Predicted PC μg/m³	PC % of Critical level
Norfolk Valley Fens SAC	1*	0.028	2.8

^{*}A precautionary critical level of 1 μg/m³ has been assigned to this site. Where the precautionary level of 1 μg/m³ is used, and the PC is assessed to be less than the 4% insignificance threshold in this circumstance it is not necessary to further consider nitrogen deposition or acid deposition critical load values

The process contributions are based on worst case modelling results for this SAC.

River Wensum SAC

Our audited critical level and load spreadsheet states advice received from Victoria Wright Natural England dated 25/9/17 (linked to another local intensive farming installation permit reference EPR-YP3336YS). After a review of this advice we concluded that we will not assign critical levels and loads to the River Wensum SAC at this time.

The advice was based on no new information in relation to the River Wensum SAC and as it is designated for aquatic features no assessment is required based on our protocols.

Ammonia assessment - SSSI

The following trigger thresholds have been applied for assessment of SSSIs:

If the process contribution (PC) is below 20% of the relevant critical level (CLe) or critical load (CLo) then the farm can be permitted with no further assessment. Where this threshold is exceeded an assessment alone and

in combination is required. An in combination assessment will be completed to establish the combined PC for all existing farms identified within 5 km of the SSSI.

The final screening using the ammonia screening tool version 4.5 dated 07/12/18 has indicated that emissions from Barn Poultry Farm will only have a potential impact on SSSI sites with a precautionary critical level of $1\mu g/m^3$ if they are within 1752 metres of the emission source.

Beyond 1752 m the PC is less than $0.2\mu g/m^3$ (i.e. less than 20% of the precautionary $1\mu g/m^3$ critical level) and therefore beyond this distance the PC is insignificant. In this case all SSSIs are beyond this distance (see table below) and therefore screen out of any further assessment.

Where the precautionary level of $1\mu g/m^3$ is used, and the process contribution is assessed to be less than 20% the site automatically screens out as insignificant and no further assessment of critical load is necessary. In this case the $1\mu g/m^3$ level used has not been confirmed by Natural England, but it is precautionary. It is therefore possible to conclude no likely damage to these sites.

Table 2 - SSSI Assessment

Name of SSSI	Distance from site (m)
Hockering Wood	4,013
Alderford Common	3,830
Foxley Wood	4,354
Booton Common	4,578

Conclusion

In this case all the above SSSI's are beyond this distance (see table above) and therefore screen out of any further assessment.

Whitwell Common SSSI

Screening using the detailed modelling report dated 15/10/18 has indicated that the PC for Whitwell Common SSSI is predicted to be less than 20% of the critical level for ammonia emissions therefore it is possible to conclude no damage. The results of the ammonia screening tool version 4.5 are given in the tables below.

Table 3 - Ammonia emissions

Site	Ammonia Cle (μg/m³)	PC (µg/m³)	PC % critical level
Whitwell Common SSSI	1	0.127	12.7

A precautionary level of 1 μ g/m³ has been used during the screen. Where the precautionary level of 1 μ g/m³ is used, and the process contribution is assessed to be less than the 20% insignificance threshold in this circumstance it is not necessary to further consider nitrogen deposition or acid deposition critical load values. In these cases the 1 μ g/m³ level used has not been confirmed, but it is precautionary. No further assessment is required.

River Wensum SSSI

Screening using detailed modelling report received 15/10/18 has determined that the PC on for ammonia emissions/nitrogen deposition from the application site are under the 20% significance threshold and can be screened out as having no likely significant effect. See results below.

The process contributions are based on worst case modelling results for this SSSI.

Table 4- Ammonia emissions

Site	Critical level ammonia µg/m³	Predicted PC μg/m³	PC % of critical level
River Wensum SSSI	3*	0.468	58.6

^{*} CLe 3 applied taken from APIS website (www.apis.ac.uk) -07/12/18

Table 5 - Nitrogen deposition

Site	Critical load kg N/ha/yr. [1]	Predicted PC kg N/ha/yr.	PC % of critical load
River Wensum SSSI	30	3.64	12.13

Note [1] Critical load values taken from APIS website (www.apis.ac.uk) -07/12/18

Acid deposition

We have not done an acid deposition assessment as after a review of APIS website (www.apis.ac.uk) (07/12/18) there are no Critical load for acid deposition as the habitat site is not sensitive to this feature.

Conclusion

The assessment confirmed that the impacts of the installation on these habitats sites are not significant and no further assessment is required.

Ammonia assessment - LWS/AW

The following trigger thresholds have been applied for the assessment of these sites:

• If the process contribution (PC) is below 100% of the relevant critical level (CLe) or critical load (CLo) then the farm can be permitted with no further assessment.

Initial screening using ammonia screening tool version 4.5 dated 09/10/18 has indicated that emissions from this installation will only have a potential impact on the LWS/AW sites with a precautionary critical level of $1\mu g/m^3$ if they are within **621** metres of the emission source.

Beyond 621 m the PC is less than $1\mu g/m^3$ and therefore beyond this distance the PC is insignificant. In this case all LWS/AWs are beyond this distance (see table below) and therefore screen out of any further assessment.

Table 6 - LWS/AW Assessment

Name of LWS/AW	Distance from site (m)
Weston Meadow LWS	1,891
Marriott's Way LWS	1,045
Lenwade Pits (East) LWS	1,774
Lakes near Lyng LWS	1,980
Sparham Wood LWS	1,748
Sparham House Grounds LWS	1,344
Land adjacent to Whitwell Common LWS	1,347
Eades Hill Meadows LWS	1,761

Name of LWS/AW	Distance from site (m)
Great Witchingham Common LWS	1,018
Lenwade Pits (West) LWS	1,110
Sparham Pools LWS	1,259
Lyng Easthaugh Meadows LWS	1,473
Grassland adj. River Wensum LWS	1,076
Meadow adjacent to Sandy Lane LWS	1,767
Sparham Woods AW	1,744

Pits near Lyng Easthaugh LWS

Ammonia assessment – LWS/AW

The following trigger thresholds have been applied for the assessment of these sites:

• If the process contribution (PC) is below 100% of the relevant critical level (CLe) or critical load (CLo) then the farm can be permitted with no further assessment.

Screening assessment

Screening using the ammonia screening tool version 4.5 dated 07/12/18 has determined that the PC on the LWS/AW/LNR for ammonia emissions/nitrogen deposition/acid deposition from the application site are under the 100% significance threshold and can be screened out as having no likely significant effect. See results below.

Table 7 - Ammonia emissions

Site	Critical level ammonia µg/m³	Predicted PC μg/m³	PC % of critical level
Pits near Lyng Easthaugh LWS	3*	1.685	56.2

^{*} CLe 3 applied as no protected lichen or bryophytes species were found when checking Easimap layer

Table 8 - Nitrogen deposition

Site	Critical load kg N/ha/yr. *	Predicted PC kg N/ha/yr.	PC % of critical load
Pits near Lyng Easthaugh LWS	10*	8.753	87.5

^{*} Critical load values taken from APIS website (www.apis.ac.uk) - 07/12/18.

Table 9 - Acid deposition

Site	Critical load keq/ha/yr*	Predicted PC keq/ha/yr.	PC % of critical load
Pits near Lyng Easthaugh LWS	0.625*	10.981	5.69

^{*} Critical load values taken from APIS website (www.apis.ac.uk) - 07/12/18.

Conclusion

The assessment confirmed that the impacts of the installation on these habitats sites are not significant and no further assessment is required.

Decision checklist

Aspect considered	Decision	
Receipt of application		
Confidential information	A claim for commercial or industrial confidentiality has not been made.	
Identifying confidential information	We have not identified information provided as part of the application that we consider to be confidential.	
	The decision was taken in accordance with our guidance on confidentiality.	
Consultation		
Consultation	The consultation requirements were identified in accordance with the Environmental Permitting Regulations and our public participation statement.	
	The application was publicised on the GOV.UK website.	
	We consulted the following organisations	
	Environmental Health (Local authority Shropshire Council)	
	Health and Safety Executive	
	Public Health England/Director of Public Health.	
	The comments and our responses are summarised in the consultation section.	
Operator		
Control of the facility	We are satisfied that the applicant (now the operator) is the person who will have control over the operation of the facility after the grant of the permit. The decision was taken in accordance with our guidance on legal operator for environmental permits.	
The facility		
The regulated facility	We considered the extent and nature of the facility at the site in accordance with RGN2 'Understanding the meaning of regulated facility', Appendix 2 of RGN 2 'Defining the scope of the installation', Appendix 1 of RGN 2 'Interpretation of Schedule 1', guidance on waste recovery plans and permits.	
	The extent of the facility is defined in the site plan and in the permit. The activities are defined in table S1.1 of the permit.	
The site		
Extent of the site of the facility	The operator has provided a plan which we consider is satisfactory, showing the extent of the site of the facility including the discharge points. The plan is included in the permit.	
Site condition report	The operator has provided a description of the condition of the site, which we consider is satisfactory. The decision was taken in accordance with our guidance on site condition reports and baseline reporting under the Industrial Emissions Directive.	
Biodiversity, heritage, landscape and nature conservation	The application is within the relevant distance criteria of a site of heritage, landscape or nature conservation, and/or protected species or habitat.	
	We have assessed the application and its potential to affect all known sites of nature conservation, landscape and heritage and/or protected species or habitats identified in	

Aspect considered	Decision
	the nature conservation screening report as part of the permitting process.
	We consider that the application will not affect any sites of nature conservation, landscape and heritage, and/or protected species or habitats identified. There are no European/Ramsar sites within 5 km screening distance so no HRA 1 risk assessment is required.
	Please refer to the key issues section for further details
Environmental risk as	sessment
Environmental risk	We have reviewed the operator's assessment of the environmental risk from the facility. The operator's risk assessment is satisfactory.
	The assessment shows that, applying the conservative criteria in our guidance on environmental risk assessment, all emissions may be categorised as environmentally insignificant
Operating techniques	
General operating techniques	We have reviewed the techniques used by the operator and compared these with the relevant guidance notes and we consider them to represent appropriate techniques for the facility.
	The operating techniques that the applicant must use are specified in table S1.2 in the environmental permit.
	The operating techniques are as stated in Non-Technical Summary and Application Supporting Documents and request for information further responses and are summarized as follows:
	Four broiler houses equipped with high velocity roof fans (efflux velocity 11 m/s) and four houses with medium roof velocity fans
	Houses will be warmed with the usage of LPG boilers.
	Clean water roof water discharges to soak aways and lightly contaminated yard water discharged to off-site ditches.
	Dirty water is transferred to dedicated dirty water tanks.
	Final site drainage plans and final site layout plans giving installation drainage and poultry housing ventilation details.
	The proposed techniques for priorities for control are in line with the benchmark levels contained in the Sector Guidance Note EPR6.09 and we consider them to represent appropriate techniques for the facility. The permit conditions ensure compliance with relevant BREFs.
Odour management	We have reviewed the odour management plan in accordance with our guidance on odour management. We consider that the odour management plan is satisfactory.
Noise management	We have reviewed the noise management plan in accordance with our guidance on noise assessment and control. We consider that the noise management plan is satisfactory.
Permit conditions	
Emission limits	We have decided that no emission limits are required based on no relevant emission limits for broiler breeders within the 2017 Intensive Farming BAT conclusion document requirements.

Aspect considered	Decision	
Monitoring	Monitoring requirements, based on 2017 Intensive Farming BAT conclusion document requirements, have been set within Table S3.3.	
Reporting	We have specified process monitoring reporting in the permit. We made these decisions in accordance with the 2017 Intensive Farming BAT conclusion document.	
Operator competence		
Management system	There is no known reason to consider that the operator will not have the management system to enable it to comply with the permit conditions.	
	The decision was taken in accordance with the guidance on operator competence and how to develop a management system for environmental permits.	
Relevant convictions	The Case Management System and National Enforcement Database have been checked to ensure that all relevant convictions have been declared.	
	No relevant convictions were found. The operator satisfies the criteria in our guidance on operator competence.	
Financial competence	There is no known reason to consider that the operator will not be financially able to comply with the permit conditions.	
Growth Duty		
Section 108 Deregulation Act 2015 – Growth duty	We have considered our duty to have regard to the desirability of promoting economic growth set out in section 108(1) of the Deregulation Act 2015 and the guidance issued under section 110 of that Act in deciding whether to vary this permit.	
	Paragraph 1.3 of the guidance says:	
	"The primary role of regulators, in delivering regulation, is to achieve the regulatory outcomes for which they are responsible. For a number of regulators, these regulatory outcomes include an explicit reference to development or growth. The growth duty establishes economic growth as a factor that all specified regulators should have regard to, alongside the delivery of the protections set out in the relevant legislation."	
	We have addressed the legislative requirements and environmental standards to be set for this operation in the body of the decision document above. The guidance is clear at paragraph 1.5 that the growth duty does not legitimise non-compliance and its purpose is not to achieve or pursue economic growth at the expense of necessary protections.	
	We consider the requirements and standards we have set in this permit are reasonable and necessary to avoid a risk of an unacceptable level of pollution. This also promotes growth amongst legitimate operators because the standards applied to the operator are consistent across businesses in this sector and have been set to achieve the required legislative standards.	

Consultation

The following summarises the responses to consultation with other organisations, our notice on GOV.UK for the public, and the way in which we have considered these in the determination process.

The gov.uk public advertising closed 13/1/19 with no comment and the consultation closed 15/11/9 with no formal responses