

Environment Agency permitting decisions

Part surrender

We have decided to accept the surrender of part of the permit for Langland and Venn Farm operated by Geoffrey William Persey.

The permit number is EPR/VP3135CR

We are satisfied that the necessary measures have been taken to avoid any pollution risk and to return the site to a satisfactory state.

We consider in reaching that decision we have taken into account all relevant considerations and legal requirements.

Summary of the Decision

The permit was granted for this installation on 22/03/13 for 139,000 organic free range layer places comprising:

- Venn Farm: 62,000 organic free range layer places
- Langlands farm: 77,000 organic free range layer places

The Venn Farm portion of the installation is centred on National Grid Reference ST 03428 13421, comprises nine poultry houses numbered 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9 and 10, which together provide a capacity for 62,000 birds.

The Langlands Farm portion of the installation is further split into two sites centred on National Grid References ST 04469 11901 and ST 05372 12300. The Langlands sites are respectively occupied by poultry houses 3, 4, 5, 6 and 8, and poultry houses 1, 2, 7 and 10. Together, these nine poultry houses provide a capacity for 77,000 birds.

The Operator has applied to surrender the Langland Farm portion of the Permit. The permitted activities carried out by William Geoffrey Persey at Langlands Farm ceased on May 2014.

The application was determined as a low risk surrender.

Purpose of this document

This decision document:

- explains how the operator's 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

Key issues of the decision

The test for the surrender of permits is given in paragraph 14 of Schedule 5 to the EPR 2010, where it states that:

The regulator must accept an application to surrender an environmental permit in whole or in part under regulation 25(2) if it is satisfied that the necessary measures have been taken –

(a) to avoid a pollution risk resulting from the operation of the regulated facility; and

(b) to return the site of the regulated facility to a satisfactory state, having regard to the state of the site before the facility was put into operation.

The factors that we have taken into account in determining whether to accept the application for surrender of the permit are described below.

Decommissioning and Removal of Pollution Risk

The Operator has confirmed in their site surrender report (SSR) that;

- all waste has been removed from site and the storage area has been cleaned down;
- all permitted activities have ceased;
- the pollution risk has been removed; and
- the condition of the land has not deteriorated during the lifetime of the permit.

The operator's surrender SSR shows that there has been no change in the condition of the land and that pollution prevention measures have worked during the life of the permit.

We are satisfied that the 'test' for the surrender of permits under paragraph 14 of Schedule 5 to the EP Regulations has been met.

Based on our analysis and consideration of the application to surrender the permit, we have concluded that:

- the necessary measures to avoid a pollution risk during the operation of the regulated facility were undertaken, which has protected the site from deterioration;
- Poultry houses 1, 7 and 10 have been completely decommissioned.
- The site has no history of accidents or pollution.

- The layer unit at Langlands Farm will continue to operate at stocking levels below the 40,000 poultry production limit which is the threshold for requiring an EPR permit under Section 6.9 A(1)(a) ii; and
- the Langlands Farm site of the regulated facility is in a satisfactory state for surrender.

Annex 1: decision checklist

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

Aspect considered	Justification / Detail	Criteria met
		Yes
The facility		
The regulated facility	<p>The permitted regulated facilities have changed as a result of the partial surrender.</p> <p>The regulated facility now comprises Venn Farm only as the part of the permit referring to the land and activities at Langland Farm has been surrendered as the production of broilers is no longer carried out.</p> <p>The regulated facility is now for 62,000 organic free range layer places.</p>	✓
The permit conditions		
Changes to permit conditions	<p>The permit conditions have changed as a result of the partial surrender.</p> <p>The permitted activities as detailed in table S1.1 have been amended, tables relating to emissions from Langland Farm have been amended or deleted and a new site plan has been included.</p>	✓
The site		
Extent of the surrender application	<p>The operator has provided a plan showing the extent of the site of the facility that is to be surrendered.</p> <p>We consider this plan to be satisfactory,.</p>	✓
Pollution risk	<p>We are satisfied that the necessary measures have been taken to avoid a pollution risk resulting from the operation of the regulated facility.</p>	✓
Satisfactory state	<p>We are satisfied that the necessary measures have been taken to return the site of the regulated facility to a satisfactory state.</p> <p>In coming to this decision we have had regard to the state of the site before the facility was put into operation.</p>	✓