

## **Environment Agency permitting decisions**

### **Bespoke permit**

We have decided to issue the permit for Sheds Farm Poultry Unit operated by JW and RT Ellis.

The permit number is EPR/UP3937RU/A001.

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
- justifies the specific conditions in the permit other than those in our generic permit template.

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

### **Structure of this document**

- Description of main features of the installation
- Annex 1 the decision checklist
- Annex 2 the consultation, web publicising responses

### **Description of the main features of the Installation**

The main features of the permit are as follows.

Sheds Farm Poultry Unit is situated approximately 1.8km west of the village of North Leverton. The installation is centred on National Grid Reference SK 76593 80877.

The installation is operated by Mr Jeremy William Ellis and Mr Richard Thomas Ellis and comprises three poultry houses (1, 2 & 3) and a store house. The three poultry houses provide capacity for 75,000 (free range broilers) birds.

Day old birds are brought onto the site and at the end of the growing cycle all birds are depleted off site. On average there are 7 crops per annum with a turnaround of 5-7 days between crops.

The ventilation system on all three poultry houses comprises of side opening vents and high velocity ridge extraction fans which are fully automated. Each house is connected to below ground dirty water tanks; water is directed to

these via internal drainage points within each building. Rainwater for houses 1 & 2 is picked up via French drains which run along the side of the houses to the front towards a soakaway across the farm track. For house 3 rain water is directed via French drains to a lagoon at the end of the house.

At the end of the growing cycle all birds are depleted off site with the buildings being dry cleaned by means of compressed air to remove dust build up. Spent litter is removed from site by sheeted trailers and is transported by approved contractors. At this point the cleanout valve is activated and all surface water and dirty water is collected in the dirty water tanks. The buildings are washed using high pressure water collected and removed from site for land spreading before all buildings are disinfected.

Associated food is stored on the installation in sealed food bins. Mortalities are collected and stored in a secure container (freezer) on site for removal twice weekly under the National Fallen Stock Scheme.

## Annex 1: decision checklist

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

Aspect considered	Justification / Detail	Criteria met
<b>Receipt of submission</b>		
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 commercial confidentiality.	✓
<b>Consultation</b>		
Scope of consultation	<p>The consultation requirements were identified and implemented. The decision was taken in accordance with RGN 6 High Profile Sites, our Public Participation Statement and our Working Together Agreements.</p> <p>For this application we consulted the following bodies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bassetlaw District Council Planning and Environmental Health Dept</li> <li>• Public health England</li> <li>• Director of Public Health England.</li> </ul>	✓
Responses to consultation and web publicising	<p>The web publicising and consultation responses (Annex 2) were taken into account in the decision.</p> <p>The decision was taken in accordance with our guidance.</p>	✓
<b>Operator</b>		
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 EPR RGN 1 Understanding the meaning of operator.	✓
<b>The facility</b>		
The regulated facility	<p>The extent/nature of the activities and operations taking place at the site required clarification.</p> <p>The decision on the facility was taken in accordance with Appendix 2 of RGN 2 “Defining the scope of the installation”,</p>	✓

Aspect considered	Justification / Detail	Criteria met
		Yes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The regulated facility is an installation which comprises the following activities listed in Part 2 of Schedule 1 to the Environmental Permitting Regulations and the following directly associated activities.</li> <li><b>Activity</b> - Section 6.9 A(1)(a)(i) Rearing of poultry intensively in an installation with more than 40,000 places, <b>Description</b> - The rearing of poultry in a facility with a capacity for 75,000 Free Range broiler places.</li> </ul>	
<b>European Directives</b>		
Applicable directives	All applicable European directives have been considered in the determination of the application.	✓
<b>The site</b>		
Extent of the site of the facility	<p>The operator has provided plans which we consider are satisfactory, showing the extent of the site of the facility including discharge points.</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	<p>The operator has provided a description of the condition of the site.</p> <p>We consider this description is satisfactory. The decision was taken in accordance with our guidance on site condition reports and baseline reporting under IED– guidance and templates (H5).</p>	✓
Biodiversity, Heritage, Landscape and Nature Conservation	<p>The application is within the relevant distance criteria of a site of heritage, landscape or nature conservation, and/or protected species or habitat .</p> <p>A full assessment of the application and its potential to affect the sites has been carried out as part of the permitting process. We consider that the application will not affect the features of the sites.</p> <p>We have not formally consulted on the application. The decision was taken in accordance with our guidance.</p>	✓

Aspect considered	Justification / Detail	Criteria met Yes
<b>Environmental Risk Assessment and operating techniques</b>		
Environmental risk	<p>We have reviewed the operator's assessment of the environmental risk from the facility. The operator's risk assessment is satisfactory.</p> <p>The assessment shows that, applying the conservative criteria in our guidance on Environmental Risk Assessment [or similar methodology supplied by the operator and reviewed by ourselves], all emissions may be categorised as environmentally insignificant.</p>	✓
Operating techniques	<p>We have reviewed the techniques used by the operator and compared these with the relevant guidance notes.</p> <p><b>Odour Management Plans</b> For sites that require an Odour Management Plan as set out in How to Comply with your Environmental Permit under the section – Activities which are likely to give rise to odour problems, add:</p> <p>We, the Environment Agency, have reviewed and approved the Odour Management Plan and consider it complies with the requirements of our H4 Odour management guidance note. We agree with the scope and suitability of key measures but this should not be taken as confirmation that the details of equipment specification design, operation and maintenance are suitable and sufficient. That remains the responsibility of the operator.</p> <p><b>Operating Techniques for insignificant emissions</b></p> <p>Emissions of ammonia have been previously screened out as insignificant, and so the Environment Agency agrees that the Applicant's proposed techniques are BAT for the installation</p>	✓
<b>The permit conditions</b>		
Incorporating the application	We have specified that the applicant must operate the permit in accordance with descriptions in the application, including all additional information received as part of the determination process.	✓

Aspect considered	Justification / Detail	Criteria met
		Yes
	These descriptions are specified in the Operating Techniques table in the permit.	
<b>Operator Competence</b>		
Environment management system	There is no known reason to consider that the operator will not have the management systems to enable it to comply with the permit conditions. The decision was taken in accordance with RGN 5 on Operator Competence.	✓
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.	✓
Financial provision	There is no known reason to consider that the operator will not be financially able to comply with the permit conditions. The decision was taken in accordance with our guidance on what a competent operator is.	✓

## **Annex 2: External Consultation, web publicising and responses**

Summary of responses to consultation and web publication and the way in which we have taken these into account in the determination process.

Response received from
Public Health England
Brief summary of issues raised
No issues raised
Summary of actions taken or show how this has been covered
Standard conditions have been applied.

No other responses received.