

Environment Agency permitting decisions

Surrender

We have decided to accept the surrender of the permit for Towerhill Farm Poultry Unit operated by Hook 2 Sisters Limited.

The permit number is EPR/LP3934HM

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.

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

Site Condition Report

The application is a full surrender. This site operated as a Intensive Poultry Farm, comprising of 11 broiler houses to rear chickens for meat production. The site has now been decommissioned with all risks to pollution removed and handed back to the landlord for sale. A Decommissioning Plan has been carried out in-line with the permit surrender (document reference: 06 Tower Hill – supporting documents – Decommissioning plan, dated: August 2016).

Throughout the operation under the permit the site undertook the following measures to ensure that the land was protected:

- Maintained a sealed drainage system and underground collection tanks
- Ensured fuel store on site was secondary bunded in cast concrete. This was inspected and maintained.
- Loading of live haul trailer and trailers recovering spent litter was undertaken on hard standing areas with drainage connections to collection tanks for clean down.
- All buildings, concrete service area and the drainage system were washed clean every 7-8 weeks after crop depletion.

Since the current operator has operated on site there has been no pollution incidents. The current operator is also unaware of any historic pollution events.

Based on the above, we conclude that the risk for the site to have been polluted is low and the site is in a satisfactory state to be surrendered.

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 site		
Extent of the surrender application	The operator has provided a plan showing the extent of the site of the facility that is to be surrendered. We consider this plan to be satisfactory.	✓
Pollution risk	We are satisfied that the necessary measures have been taken to avoid a pollution risk resulting from the operation of the regulated facility.	✓
Satisfactory state	We are satisfied that the necessary measures have been taken to return the site of the regulated facility to a satisfactory state. In coming to this decision we have had regard to the state of the site before the facility was put into operation.	✓