

# Permitting decisions

## Part surrender

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We have decided to accept the surrender of part of the permit for Grange Farm Poultry Unit operated by Mr Steven Wilkinson and Mr Thomas Wilkinson (trading as Wilkinson Brothers).

The permit number is EPR/UP3532QH.

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 provides a record of the decision making process. It:

- highlights [key issues](#) in the determination
- summarises the decision making process in the [decision checklist](#) to show how all relevant factors have been taken into account

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

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

## Key issues of the decision

### Ammonia emissions

The partial surrender removes three poultry sheds, Old Hall Farm sheds 1, 2, and 3, from the permit but does not reduce the permitted number of bird places. Due to the partial surrender removing three poultry sheds in the south of the site, the 'centre' of the farm has been moved approximately 150 metres to the north. The previous ammonia assessment has been assessed and the impacts of moving the centre are not deemed significant. The impact from ammonia emissions on the local wildlife sites are expected to be reduced as a result of these changes, as there will no longer be poultry houses located within the local wildlife sites.

## Decision checklist

Aspect considered	Decision
<b>Receipt of application</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 confidentiality.
<b>The facility</b>	
The regulated facility	The permitted regulated facilities have changed as a result of the partial surrender.  The area of land housing poultry houses 1, 2, and 3 of Old Hall Farm, located on national grid reference TF 04267 76207, has been surrendered. The buildings used for the permitted activities that occupy the surrendered land will be thoroughly cleaned, the drinker and feeder systems removed, and their contaminated water stores emptied. Electricity to the sheds will be removed, as will associated gas tanks. Old Hall Farm Sheds 1, 2, and 3 will then be demolished.  The installation boundary plan in Schedule 4 of the permit has been amended to reflect this change.
<b>The site</b>	
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. There is no known history of environment pollution / incidents at the site.
Satisfactory state	We are satisfied that the necessary measures have been taken to return the site of the regulated facility to a satisfactory state.  Houses 1, 2, and 3 of Old Hall Farm will be de-commissioned to the point that birds cannot be placed inside the houses. All litter will be removed and the houses thoroughly cleaned. The drinker and feeder systems will be removed and the feed silos will be emptied. The gas tanks will be removed, as will the electricity supply.  In coming to this decision we have had regard to the state of the site before the facility was put into operation.
<b>Permit conditions</b>	
Changes to permit	Houses 1, 2, and 3 of Old Hall Farm have been removed with their associated

<b>Aspect considered</b>	<b>Decision</b>
conditions as a consequence of the surrender	emissions points. The permitted installation boundary has changed as a result of the partial surrender. No other permit conditions have changed.
<b>Growth Duty</b>	
Section 108 Deregulation Act 2015 – Growth duty	<p>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 grant this permit surrender.</p> <p>Paragraph 1.3 of the guidance says:</p> <p>“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.”</p> <p>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.</p>