

Permitting decisions- Surrender

We have decided to accept the surrender of the permit for Steep Marsh Poultry Unit operated by Humphrey Farms Limited.

The permit number is EPR/GP3133UA/S005.

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 this decision that 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 summarises the decision-making process to show how the main relevant factors have been taken into account.

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 decisions considerations section to show how all relevant factors have been taken into account

Key issues of the decision

All birds were removed from the site on 17/12/2021 (Gardens Rearing Farm) and 17/02/2022 (Steep Marsh Farm). The operator contacted the Environment Agency in August 2022 requesting a site inspection to allow for the surrender of the permit. An Area officer undertook a site visit on 11/08/2022. The Area officer produced a site inspection report (Report ID: GP3133UA/0434344) dated 16/08/22 which corroborates the information contained within the site closure report provided with this application. The inspection report confirms that the site has been destocked and that it has been decommissioned such that it no longer presents a risk to the environment. Therefore, the site is in a satisfactory state for surrender.

The area officer has also confirmed in writing that the site can be considered as a low risk surrender (email 07/06/2023).

Decision considerations

Confidential information

A claim for commercial or industrial confidentiality has not been made.

The decision was taken in accordance with our guidance on confidentiality.

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.

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, having regard to the state of the site before the facility was put into operation.

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 accept this permit surrender.