

Non-Technical Summary

Thornton Le Moor Poultry Unit is applying for a permit for 80,000 pullets, housed in two poultry houses.

Pullets will be housed at day old chicks and depopulated at the end of the rearing cycle (16 weeks old), this will be done on an all-out all in basis. There will be approximately three cycles per annum. The houses use an aviary system with twice weekly litter belt removal.

Before bird arrival the house floors will be covered to a minimum depth of 2 cm of bulk shavings. Temperature and humidity will be closely monitored on a daily basis to achieve bird comfort and a relative humidity of 55-60%, this should achieve litter with a high dry matter content, which is important to minimising emissions. Ventilation is controlled by high velocity roof fans, situated at the southern gable ends, (11m/s efflux and 5.5m release height). The pullets will be heated by kerosene heaters.

Water is via a nipple drinking system fitted with cups to reduce leakage and spills leading to drier litter.

Birds are fed a minimum of three diets during their cycle, with gradually reducing levels of protein and phosphorous as bird age increases.

Feed is delivered from a UKAS accredited feed mill and blown into bulk feed bins situated adjacent to the houses, from the feed bins the feed is augered into the houses and distributed to the birds via a chain feeding system.

Fallen stock will be recorded daily and securely stored awaiting weekly collection.

Manure belts are operated twice weekly removing litter from the houses.

At depletion any remaining litter will be removed from the site and used on third party land for spreading. The site will then be pressure washed, disinfected and dried out prior to the cycle beginning again. All wash waters will be contained in a sealed underground tank and exported for third party land spreading. Thornton Le Moor Poultry Unit has a standby generator in case of electricity interruption, with a thermal input of 250kwth. Clean roof and yard water will be collected by French drains and routed to the unlined attenuation pond.

The above measures are designed to reduce emissions, trees and hedges will trap dust particles reducing odour. Ammonia emissions will be reduced by reduced protein feed, maintaining good litter conditions. Containment of wash waters will prevent pollutants being released to the environment.

Records of tonnages of litter and wash water removal are recorded, wash water will be exported off site.