

Non Technical Summary

Water Tower Farm is applying for a permit to rear 350,000 broilers on a new greenfield site, in 6 poultry houses with LPG heating only. NGR 496030,387307.

Birds will be housed at day old and depopulated at around thirty-two to forty two days of age with approximately seven days empty, which will give 7 to 7.5 cycles per annum, this will be done on an all out all in basis.

Before bird arrival the houses will be pre-warmed with LPG heaters. Floors will be covered with a layer of bulk wood shavings. Temperature and humidity will be computer controlled and closely monitored on a daily basis to achieve a target level of 21° C post brooding 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 a negative pressure system using high velocity roof mounted extraction fans (5.5m release height, 11m/s efflux velocity). Water is via a nipple drinking system fitted with cups to reduce leakage and spills leading to drier litter.

Birds will be fed a minimum of three diets during their growth, 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 at the ends of the houses, from the feed bins the feed is augered into the houses and distributed to the birds via a pan feeding system.

At depletion the litter will be removed from the site and sold for land spreading. The farm will then be pressure washed disinfected, dried out prior to the cycle beginning again.

All clean roof and yard water drainage (excepting periods of washdown) goes into French drains routed to an unlined attenuation pond, no discharge off-site.

Washings from poultry houses and yards directed to underground dirty water tanks.

Fallen stock during the production cycle will be collected and recorded daily. These will be collected by a licensed collection agent under the national fallen stock scheme.

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 with a high dry matter content. Containment of wash waters will prevent pollutants being released to the environment.

Records of tonnages of litter and wash water exported off site are recorded.