

## Lower Barn Poultry Unit Noise Management Plan

The H1 Environmental Risk Assessment submitted with application EPR/EP3204SE/A001 for a bespoke installation permit for 4No. houses for rearing poultry intensively and directly associated activities shows that that sources have been identified as contributing to potentially moderate and minor risk of noise. The risk assessment was performed in accordance with Environment Agency (2005); Technical Guidance Note IPPC SRG 6.02 (Farming); Noise Management at Intensive livestock Installations.

A Noise Management Plan (NMP) has been created as part of the environmental management system for Lower Barn Poultry Unit owing to sensitive receptors within 400 metres, including 3 dwellings and agricultural premises in Clay Hall Lane and a dwelling in Smallworth shown in Table 1 and Figure 1.

Table 1 Noise sensitive receptors within 400m Lower Barn Poultry Unit

| Location                  | Name                 | Postcode | Receptor              | Direction | Distance from boundary | Grid reference |
|---------------------------|----------------------|----------|-----------------------|-----------|------------------------|----------------|
| Clay Hall Lane Blo Norton | Willow Farm          | IP22 2HZ | Dwelling              | S         | 295m                   | TM 01797 80570 |
| Clay Hall Lane Blo Norton | Willow Farm          | IP22 2HZ | Agricultural premises | S         | 340m                   | TM 01783 80525 |
| Clay Hall Lane Blo Norton | Willow Farm Bungalow | IP22 2HZ | Dwelling              | S         | 290m                   | TM 01768 80570 |
| Clay Hall Lane Blo Norton | Three Wells Farm     | IP22 2HZ | Dwelling              | S         | 260m                   | TM 01739 80610 |
| Smallworth, Garboldisham  | Puddledock           | IP22 2SR | Dwelling              | SW        | 305m                   | TM 01491 80768 |

*Distances measured on MAGIC Maps*

Fig 1. Noise sensitive receptors within 400m Lower Barn Poultry Unit



The sensitive receptors are especially at risk in summer when people are more likely to have windows open including at night time, or outdoors.

Matrix Acoustic Design conducted a noise survey to determine the typical background noise levels at the nearest dwellings to the proposed poultry houses at Lower Barn. The extraction fan noise and transport noise (HGV movements and loading /unloading using a diesel forklift within the concrete apron) as a result of the proposed development have been assessed in accordance with BS 4142:2014. On the basis that the proposed development (with attenuators fitted to the roof fans as detailed in the report) will not result in adverse impact at the nearest dwellings, concluded that during the night the absolute noise levels will result in low noise and was acceptable.

The purpose of this Plan is to:-

- Establish the likely sources of noise arising from a typical broiler chicken unit
- Set out the actions taken at Lower Barn Poultry Unit in order to prevent or minimise noise levels
- Contingency and emergency planning to limit exposure to elevated noise emissions beyond the installation boundary.

| Typical sources of noise problems                       | Actions taken at Lower Barn Poultry Unit to prevent or minimise noise   |
|---|---|
| Large delivery vehicles travelling to and from the farm | <p>Measures are described in Best Available Techniques (BAT) Reference Document; 2017 and EPR 6.09 Sector Guidance Note; How to comply – Intensive Farming v2; 2010:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deliveries and collections will be limited to normal working times 07.00-18.00 hours in the working week (Monday to Friday and Saturday morning but exclusive of bank holidays) Occasionally catching and collections times start before 07.00, at night time but this is more the exception than the rule and any deliveries of feed, fuels and chicks outside normal working time would only be result of abnormal circumstances e.g. delays or breakdowns.</li> <li>• Drivers will be made aware of driving slowly on and off the farm and minimising noise.</li> <li>• Engines will be switched off when not in use.</li> </ul>  |
| Feed, fuel, and other deliveries                        | <p>Measures are described in Best Available Techniques (BAT) Reference Document; 2017 and EPR 6.09 Sector Guidance Note; How to comply – Intensive Farming v2; 2010:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Blowing feed into the silos will be the noisiest delivery but typically takes less than an hour.</li> <li>• Vehicles will be fitted with audible ‘vehicle reversing’ warning systems and will generally only be on site in the daytime.</li> <li>• Bulk feed storage silos installed in pairs alongside one another, minimise HGV movements during feed deliveries and will be monitored by drivers, so blowers switched off after each point of delivery.</li> </ul>  |
| Ventilation fans  | <p>Measures are described in Best Available Techniques (BAT) Reference Document; 2017 and EPR 6.09 Sector Guidance Note; How to comply – Intensive Farming v2; 2010 2010 and DEFRA; 2018 Code of practice for the welfare of meat chickens and meat breeding chickens:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Package ventilation systems designed and installed by professional contractors minimising number of extraction fans required.</li> <li>• Package high velocity extractor fans (with outlet vents greater than 5.5 metres high and fan efflux velocity greater than 7m/s) installed in ridge vents of all the poultry houses with package inlets, attic sections, lead through and plastic outlet cones. Fans considered to be low noise relative to typical rural background noise.</li> <li>• A small number of fans will be operating continuously, rather than a larger number switching off and on, and the ventilation systems are computer controlled.</li> <li>• Stockman will be inspecting automatic equipment on which chickens depend not less than once per day to check there are no defects.</li> </ul> |

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|   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Noisy, out of balance or worn fans are not energy efficient and might produce high noise with annoying frequencies or tones will be repaired as quickly as possible by professional contractors.</li> <li>Maintaining a preventive maintenance programme &amp; record keeping for buildings and equipment including for the ridge vent extractor fans in accordance with manufacturer's instructions by professional contractors.</li> </ul>   |
| <p>Vehicles &amp; machinery on site</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Design</li> <li>Location</li> <li>Operation</li> <li>Timing of operations</li> <li>Inspection and maintenance</li> </ul> | <p>Measures are described in Best Available Techniques (BAT) Reference Document; 2017 and EPR 6.09 Sector Guidance Note; How to comply – Intensive Farming v2; 2010:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A concrete apron will be installed at the front of the poultry houses providing a smooth surface for HGV, diesel forklift and loader movement lessening vehicular noise.</li> <li>Compressors and pressure washers can be placed inside the poultry houses during cleaning.</li> <li>Package back-up generator will be installed, considered to be low noise.</li> <li>Unnecessary movements of trailers, diesel forklifts and loaders will be avoided.</li> <li>Idling of machines between work periods and revving of engines will be avoided.</li> <li>Catching will be organised to minimise manoeuvring of diesel forklift trucks outside the buildings.</li> <li>Staff, contractors, and visitors will be instructed not to raise voices or play radios unnecessarily at night.</li> <li>Forklift drivers will be instructed to move stock carefully, avoiding unnecessary scraping and loading the modules as smoothly as practical to avoid impact noise.</li> <li>Powered equipment for feed and fuel deliveries, removing litter, cleaning out, etc will be limited to normal working days 07.00-18.00 in the working week (Monday to Friday and Saturday morning but exclusive of public and bank holidays), as far as is practicable. Occasionally catching and collections times will start before 07.00, at night time, but this is more the exception than the rule and any deliveries of feed, fuels and chicks outside of the normal working times would only be result of abnormal circumstances e.g. delays or breakdowns.</li> <li>Alarms and generator will be tested weekly in the daytime generally between 09.00-17.00 hours.</li> <li>The concrete roadway and concrete apron in front of the poultry houses will be kept in good repair and as smooth as practical, and any cracking and potholes repaired as soon as possible to minimise vehicular noise.</li> </ul> |

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|                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vehicles will be fitted with audible 'vehicle reversing' warning systems and will generally only be on site in the daytime. The exception to this is during removal of birds sometimes when such vehicles will occasionally have to be used before 07.00 at night time (e.g. When the houses are being depopulated).</li> <li>• An alarm system will be installed to give warning of any failure of the ventilation equipment, and noise levels will not exceed levels required to alert persons working on the site.</li> <li>• Maintaining a preventive maintenance programme &amp; record keeping for buildings and equipment with stockman and contractors.</li> <li>• When repairs are required, works will be undertaken with regard to avoiding causing annoyance during the normal working day, and in event of repair works likely to cause significant noise neighbouring residents will be notified in advance.</li> </ul>  |
| Feeding equipment | <p>Measures are described in Best Available Techniques (BAT) Reference Document; 2017 and EPR 6.09 Sector Guidance Note; How to comply – Intensive Farming v2; 2010 and DEFRA; 2018 Code of practice for the welfare of meat chickens and meat breeding chickens:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Package storage silos have been installed immediately adjacent each poultry house minimising the length of flexible augers required for transferring feed into the houses. A relatively low-noise activity using electric motors and flexible augers in tubes occurring intermittently for only a few seconds each time throughout the day and night, the frequency of transfers increases as the chickens increasingly eat more during the growing period.</li> <li>• Stockman will be inspecting automatic equipment on which chickens depend not less than once per day to check there are no defects. Any defects will be repaired immediately by the stockman or by professional contractors.</li> <li>• Maintaining a preventive maintenance programme &amp; record keeping for feeding equipment with stockman and contractors.</li> </ul> |
| Removing litter   | <p>Measures are described in Best Available Techniques (BAT) Reference Document; 2017 and EPR 6.09 Sector Guidance Note; How to comply – Intensive Farming v2; 2010:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Removing litter will be limited to normal working days 07.00-18.00 hours in the working week (Monday to Friday and Saturday morning but exclusive of public and bank holidays). Otherwise any litter removal outside normal working times will only be result of abnormal circumstances e.g. delays, breakdown, or disease control.</li> <li>• Staff, and contractors and visitors will be instructed not to raise voices or play radios unnecessarily at night.</li> <li>• Removing litter from the floor, using a front end or skid-steer loader to shovel the bulk of the litter carefully and directly from the floor into a large heap the length of the house to avoid double handling and minimise time spent loading into waiting trailers positioned outside the doors and any unnecessary trailer movements.</li> </ul>  |

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|--------------|--|
|              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Doors will be open on to the concrete apron where trailers will be parked, not in close proximity to sensitive receptors.</li> <li>• Idling machines and revving engines will be avoided in between work periods.</li> </ul>  |
| Animal noise | <p>Measures are described in EPR 6.09 Sector Guidance Note; How to comply – Intensive Farming v2; 2010:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• During destocking bird noise will be minimised by careful handling and by prompt removal of the lorry from the site when full.</li> <li>• Noise from chickens themselves not considered to be a likely cause for annoyance during the growing period.</li> </ul> |

## 1. Responsibility

The Agricultural Director of Crown Chicken Ltd (the tenant) undertakes to adhere to the agreed plan at all times. The Environment Agency shall be notified without delay of any incident or accident, which is causing or may cause significant pollution as result of noise causing annoyance.

The Farm Manager/Assistant Manager/Stockmen are responsible for monitoring for noise emissions which may cause annoyance, ensuring the actions and emergency actions to minimise noise are being adhered to and managing any complaints.

## 2. Contingency control measures

Measures are described in Environment Agency (2004): Horizontal Guidance Note; IPPC H3 (Part 2) – Noise assessment and control:-

### (a) Monitoring

- i. Daily monitoring noise levels at source can help to identify any increase in noise level with time and allow remedial action to be taken.
- ii. If noise is suspected which might cause annoyance at any of the sensitive receptors in Clay Hall Lane or in Smallworth, check if it is detectable outside the boundary which will probably be sufficient to confirm if it is noticeable. Check activities on the farm and the actions to minimise noise and noise risks are being adhered to or correct them immediately.
- iii. Record the incident and corrective action in the farm diary.

### (b) Complaints

- i. Complaints must be recorded and investigated immediately including checking the actions and emergency actions to minimise noise are being adhered to. If the noise is no longer apparent the investigation must still be completed and recorded on the same day.
- ii. Tell the complainant and anyone else likely to have been affected what you have done.
- iii. Details of the complaint and the actions taken must be recorded on the Noise Complaint Report form (below) and kept in the site office. A copy must be sent to the Agricultural Director of Crown Chicken Ltd (the tenant) immediately.

## 3. Review

Review the effectiveness of the NMP including the noise related issues and actions to minimise noise at least once a year. Maybe sooner if there have been complaints or relevant changes to any operations or infrastructure.

History of changes

| <b>Version</b> | <b>Review Date</b> | <b>Reviewed by</b>  |
|----------------|--------------------|---|
| 1              | September 2020     | Created by Green Inc Solutions Ltd for an application to obtain an environmental permit for Lower Barn Poultry Unit and the NMP will be approved by the Environment Agency. |
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### Noise Complaint Report

|                                 |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Date                            |  |
| Reference number                |  |
| Name and address of complainant |  |
| Telephone number of complainant |  |

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Time and date of complaint   |  |
| Date, time, and duration of offending noise  |  |
| Weather conditions<br><i>(e.g. dry, rain. Fog, snow)</i>                                       |  |
| Wind strength and direction<br><i>(e.g. light, steady, strong, gusting)</i>                    |  |
| Callers description of noise<br><i>(e.g. hiss, hum, rumble, continuous, intermittent)</i>      |  |
| Has the caller any other comments about the offending noise?                                   |  |
| Any other previous known complaints relating to the installation (all aspects, not just noise) |  |
| Any other relevant information   |  |
| Potential noise sources that could give rise to the complaint                                  |  |
| Operating conditions at the time offending noise occurred                                      |  |
| Actions taken  |  |

|   |       |         |
|---|-------|---------|
| Final outcome   |       |         |
| Complainant visited   |       |         |
| Complainant contacted with explanation<br>Yes/No<br>Date<br>By whom |       |         |
| Form completed by   | Date: | Signed: |

*Environment Agency (2004): Horizontal Guidance Note; IPPC H3 (Part 2) – Noise assessment and control*

Complaints and the results of the investigation must be recorded on the Noise Complaint Report form and kept in the Complaints Log in the site office. A copy must be sent to the Agricultural Director of Crown Chicken Ltd (the tenant) immediately.