From: [redacted]
To:
Cc:
Subject: EPR/XP3632QE/V003 - Addition of Acid Scrubbers at Methwold Farm
Date: 30 September 2024 15:14:00
Attachments: image001.png
image002.png
image003.png
image004.png
image005.png

Dear [redacted]

Thank you for your call earlier today. As discussed, I have liaised with a senior colleague in relation to the applicant's proposal to install acid scrubbers at Methwold Farm on all poultry houses.

Firstly, thank you for advising us that the applicant is exploring additional mitigation measures in order to reduce ammonia emissions from the installation. In preparation for the imminent public consultation for this application, **we would ask that you submit a document which presents the applicants proposal for acid scrubbers at Methwold Farm in simple terms by Thursday 3rd October 2024.** We will then publish this document as part of the application proposal for public consultation. **Please note:** it should be clear in the document that the applicant is committing to the addition of acid scrubbers as part of the proposed variation application, and is not just a potential option.

I understand from our conversation that the applicant does have a preferred technology in mind, however there are a few points / questions I have listed below which you may wish to consider as part of your final technology selection:

- We will not be able to begin assessing the acceptability of the acid scrubbers until the technology is certified.
- As part of your technology choice, we would recommend you consider both the predicted ammonia and odour reduction capability. Any reductions claimed will need to be evidenced. *Note: The current BAT requirement for acid scrubbers is for the technology to provide a minimum of 70% reduction in ammonia emissions and for odour the target is 300 odour units at the outlet point.*
- You may wish to consider the ability of the chosen acid scrubber technology to operate simultaneously with the proposed heat exchangers on the poultry houses. Would the applicant want to reconsider their proposal for the use of heat exchangers on the poultry houses and focus on the reduction of ammonia emissions achieved via the acid scrubbers? Normally, scrubber certification requires a minimum 70% of airflow to pass through the scrubber, meaning it is not clear if the heat exchangers can function/be economically viable located on residual air flow.
- Depending on the design of the acid scrubber selected, it may be an opportunity to consider stack height optimisation which may be beneficial in reducing ammonia impacts further.
- Any operating techniques associated with the chosen acid scrubber technology will form part of the requirements of the permit, should it be granted, and therefore the

operator would need to ensure compliance with these when the final technology is installed.

- Does the applicant also propose to install acid scrubbers on the pig housing in addition to the acid scrubbers on the poultry housing?

We do appreciate your consideration and engagement in providing further mitigation measures to reduce ammonia emissions, however, please note that we are at the very early stages of our assessment of this proposal and we may consider that further mitigation measures are required as our assessment progresses. In addition, please note that whichever technology option you choose for the acid scrubbers, there would be a future requirement to provide monitoring data through a monitoring regime to demonstrate the effectiveness of the acid scrubbers should the permit be granted.

Please do get in touch if you have any questions or need any further clarity on the above and I would be more than happy to help.

Many thanks,

[redacted]

[redacted]
Permitting Officer – Installations
Permitting | **Part of National Regulation & Monitoring**
Environment Agency | [redacted]
Mobile: [redacted]

Please accept my thanks for your email in advance, I have made a commitment to stop sending e-mails that just say thank you. This will help me to reduce my carbon footprint https://carbonliteracy.com/the-carbon-cost-of-an-email/