

Non-Technical Summary

Stonegate Agriculture Ltd is a leading nationwide producer of eggs and egg products. This application is required due to the expansion of West Lodge Rearing Farm.

West Lodge Rearing Farm is situated in a rural area approximately 9.0 kilometres north of Sleaford in Lincolnshire. The installation is approximately centred on National Grid Reference 504490, 350220. There is one sensitive receptor located within 100 metres of the installation boundary; an agricultural dwelling owned and occupied by the applicant.

Five new poultry houses will provide production capacity for rearing 111,000 pullets. Day-old chicks will be brought on to the farm and will remain until approximately 16 weeks old. The new houses will be vented via side inlets on both sides and the air removed using high velocity fans with open exhaust outlet cones on top of the roofs.

Roof water and run-off from the open hardstanding areas (excluding during periods of litter removal and washout) will be channelled into soakaway.

Milled feed will be delivered to the site and stored in silos. There will be one stand-by generator with integrated diesel storage tank and storage tanks for liquid petroleum gas (LPG) for heating.

Mortalities are removed daily and stored in secure containers for removal under the Fallen Stock Scheme.

At the end of the growing period the houses are depopulated, the litter is removed, the houses and equipment washed and disinfected before being restocked. Litter is exported in covered trailers and wash water is conveyed to underground storage tanks for temporary storage before being exported off-site. The underground storage tanks will be purpose built and meet current legal and best practice requirements with a certified life of at least 20 years.

The new poultry houses will meet Best Available Techniques for housing design and management.

The applicant has no known dust, odour or noise complaints from previous poultry operations at the site, but has in place noise, odour and dust & bioaerosol management plans.

The development has already secured planning consent from North Kesteven District Council (17/1427/FUL). An Environmental Impact Assessment was provided with the planning application in accordance with the Town & Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2011. This Environmental Impact Assessment included reviewing likely impacts on odour and noise impact on the surrounding area which were determined to be insignificant.