Non-Technical summary for Wood Lane Poultry Unit

Introduction

Wood Lane Poultry Unit is an intensive livestock rearing installation, which has been redeveloped for the purpose of rearing broiler chickens for meat production. The site is operated by Banham Poultry (2018) Limited and was originally used for duck production. The site currently has 4 older poultry houses (houses 1, 2, 5 & 6) with an average of 55,000 broiler places for each house. The site also has 2 more modern houses (3 & 4) each which can hold approximately 65,000 broiler chickens. (The number of bird places is not a fixed entity as bird places are determined by stocking densities which change in accordance with welfare legislation). The houses will have pan feeders and LED. The site is already permitted for 130,000 ducks, and this variation will add a further 220,000 places for broiler chickens, therefore requiring the permit to be increased to 350,000 broiler places. This variation will not require any changes to the site boundary.

Chick Arrival

The houses will be pre-warmed to between 30-33°C using internal heaters fuelled by LPG. Concrete floors in all houses are covered with wood shavings to a minimum depth of 2cm. Chicks are generally (but not exclusively) brought in from Banham Poultry (2018) Ltd's own hatcheries either at Fakenham or Fulletby. They are then grown on for a typical crop cycle of 38-40 days with a typical 7 days for cleaning. As the birds grow, the ventilation rate increases and the house temperature is gradually reduced until the heaters can be switched off. Once they have reached the required size they are transported to the processing factory at Station Road, Attleborough.

Building/Construction Details

Poultry Farm currently comprises 6 poultry houses. Houses 1, 2 5, & 6 are approximately 34 years old, built of wood, with a steel roof and sited on a concrete base. Houses 3 & 4 are 1 year old and of a steel construction with concrete floors. All walls and roofs are fitted with the original insulation, which is considered to be in good condition.
Nipple and cup drinkers have been installed in all of the houses, these are designed to minimise spillage. Water used for drinking will come from a mains supply. Each of the houses will have its own individual water meter and the usage will be recorded on a daily basis.
Houses 1, 2 ,5 & 6 will be side extraction with gable end fans for use in hot weather.
Houses 3 & 4 are roof fan extract with gable end fans for use in hot weather. These have not been changed are not part of the proposed variation.

Feed

Feed will be delivered from a UFAS accredited feed supplier to the site and stored in auger fed galvanised feed silo's. The feed will distributed to the houses via pan feeders. Diets are formulated according to the bird's requirements and the stage of growth. Protein and Phosphorus levels are reduced over the growing period. The site has a bunded diesel tank which will supply fuel to the backup generator in the event of an essential systems power failure.

Drainage

Underground pipes take all dirty water from the poultry houses during wash out to the designated dirty water storage tank at the northern boundary of the site, as shown on the drainage diagram. When the storage tank is full, it will be emptied by a licensed contractor and disposed of under all relevant legislation. Roof water is not expected to be contaminated and will fall on to ground adjacent to the houses. French drains have been installed to allow the water to percolate to the surrounding ground.

Litter and carcass removal

After the birds have been cleared from the houses, the used litter will either be taken away too a nearby power station, in covered vehicles and used as a power source or it is spread to nearby land. Litter is not stored at the installation. Records are kept of the quantities and the dates of transfers. The receiver of the manure will be asked to sign a waste

transfer note. The receiver will also be asked to confirm that the manure was spread to land in accordance with the Code of Good Agricultural Practice as part of an existing manure management plan. Throughout the crop, fallen stock are counted and removed from the houses and placed in locked, vermin proof bins. The birds will be removed off-site by a certified waste carrier and rendered by a certified contractor.
The site is operated and maintained at all times to ensure excellent bird welfare. Emissions to air such as odour and ammonia are reduced therefore minimising the impact on the environment. Good practices on site allow emissions to water and land to be controlled and waste streams are monitored to ensure appropriate disposal.

Emissions from the site

Odour & Noise

The site already has existing odour & noise management plans which have been updated to reflect the intend switch to broiler production. These will be reviewed at regular intervals after the new houses are built.

Ammonia

Please find attached at Appendix 1, Pre-application ammonia screening advice conducted by the Environment Agency which concludes there will be a reduction in ammonia emissions with the proposed scenario and that detailed modelling is not required.