Non Technical Summary

Bank farm poultry unit has a permit to rear 64000 pullets in 2 poultry houses.

Proposed changes

Operator is constructing 2 additional poultry houses within the installation boundary. Existing 2 houses ventilation being changed to roof fan extraction. Both new and existing houses will be high velocity roof extraction, 5,5m release height and 7m/s efflux. Bird numbers in existing two houses – 67,000, two new houses will house 67,000 birds. Pullet places increasing to 134,000.

Pullets will be housed at day old and de populated at around 16 weeks of age with approximately fourteen days empty, which will give around 3 cycles per annum, this will be done on an all out all in basis. Pullets are housed on an aviary system with no litter belt removal. Litter remains within the houses until cycle end.
Before bird arrival the houses will be pre-warmed by 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 21º 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 with side wall air inlets. 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.
All roof water and yard water (excluding periods of wash down) is directed to the two respective soakaways (plastic soakaway crates, covered). Wash water and lightly contaminated yard water during wash down is directed to the above ground dirty water tank.
At depletion the litter will be removed from the site and exported for use as fertiliser on third party-controlled land. The farm will then be pressure washed disinfected, dried out prior to the cycle beginning again.
Fallen stock during the production cycle will be collected and recorded daily. These will be collected regularly 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.