

Non Technical Summary

Meadowlands poultry unit is applying for a permit to rear 460,500 broilers in 9 poultry houses, houses are to be heated by a biomass heating system and LPG producing hot water for blown air radiators within the poultry houses. The existing house 1 along with the new 3 houses will be fitted with air scrubbing systems reducing NH₃ emissions by 70%.

The main changes consist of 3 new poultry houses fitted with air scrubbing as well as existing house 1, increasing bird places to 460500 and the addition of a SSAFO compliant slurry lagoon for the wash water. In addition heat exchangers are to be fitted to houses 1-6. An attenuation pond will be added to accommodate clean water drainage from the three new houses. Additional ground to be included in the installation boundary for the expansion.

Birds will be housed at day old and thinned at around thirty-two days of age with final depletion at around 38 days of age, approximately seven days empty, which will give 7 to 7.5 cycles per annum, this will be done on an all out all in basis.

Before bird arrival the houses will be pre-warmed by hot water blown air 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 21° 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 on the existing four poultry houses and heat exchangers, gable fans are fitted for hot weather cooling purposes. The four new houses will be ventilated through the air scrubbers with high velocity roof fans for hot weather cooling. 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.

At depletion the litter will be removed from the site and exported for use as fertiliser on operator controlled land in compliance with the manure management plan. 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 along with air scrubbing fitted to four houses 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, use of air scrubbing systems. 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.