

INTRODUCTION

This bespoke Assessment and Management Plan has been prepared to support the overall Environmental Management System in place at the Holcombe Brook Poultry Farm. The overriding principle of this document is to ensure the day to day activities are carried in accordance with this document to help minimise the overall environmental impact. As there are number sensitive receptors within close proximity of the installation this document has been prepared as Best Practice.

The purpose of this document is to;

- Establish the likely emissions arising from the farm
- Set out procedures at the farm in order to mitigate or minimise the risk
- Formalise an effect method of dealing with any complaints quickly and efficiently

POTENTIAL EMISSION SOURCES

The following sources have been identified as contributing to a potential medium - high risk odour source.

- Emissions from compound feed selection
- Emissions from feed delivery and storage
- Emissions from ventilation techniques
- Emissions from litter conditions and management
- Emissions from bird depletion
- Emissions from cleanout (litter removal)
- Emissions and fine vapours generated from high pressure washing/disinfecting

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Management and Control Measures

Dust Related Issues	Potential Risk and Problems	Actions taken to prevent and minimise risk
Manufacture and selection of compound foods	Milling and mixing of compound feeds Poor quality ingredients	No on-site milling or mixing Feed specifications are prepared by the feed compounder's nutrition specialist. The nutritionist ensures that protein and phosphorous content is reduced as the rations change throughout the flock cycle Feed is only supplied by a UKASTA accredited feed mill, so that only approved raw materials are utilised in production. A feed sample for every load of feed delivered to the site is left and documented for both quality assessment and traceability. Samples are kept on site for a minimum of three months
Feed Delivery and storage	Spillages of feed during delivery and storage Creation of dust during delivery	Feed delivery systems are sealed to minimise atmospheric dust. Cyclone / dust catchment systems will be in place on all silos Any and all spillages are cleaned up immediately. For major spillages over 500kg the feed mill would be notified who will send a vehicle out to clear the feed up and move to another on site silo. This process is carried out with a few hours if the food is still in a condition to be used. For any major spillage greater than 500kg that is unfit for animal consumption the spillage will be cleared up into skips and removed from site for disposal via the appointed waste contractor within 24 hours of the incident. For any minor spillage less than 500kg feed would be cleared up using bags and placed in the onsite general waste container for disposal. Annual condition checks are carried out and documented as detailed in the EMS
Ventilation Techniques	Inadequate air movements within the buildings can lead to high airborne dust levels from the litter / birds Inadequate control of inlet and fan controls leads to poor dispersal of potential dust build up Fan design, installation and	The ventilation system is regularly adjusted either automatically or manually to aid optimum internal environmental conditions, as explained in the EMS. The ventilation system is designed to efficiently control the exchange of air from inside the building with that of clean air outside Maintenance schedules are in place and are carried out in line with manufactures recommendation and guidance as stated in the EMS. This is to minimise the risk of any breakdowns during the flock cycle. High velocity ridge mounted fan allow

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	operations	<p>the air to be exhausted at a greater rate upwards of 11m/s which allowing a better dispersion higher up in the natural air streams.</p> <p>Where large summer times gable fans are only used in times of warm weather the risk is minimal as 85% of the air is still controlled via the normal fans.</p>
Litter Conditions, Material and Management	Type of Bedding used as both initial lay and top up	<p>Dust extracted virgin wood shavings or chopped straw are both used as initial bedding and top up / replacement. Both products are quality checked at the production plant and routinely audited by internal / external auditing bodies.</p> <p>Initial bedding is supplied in either loose bulk form (shavings) and blown into the buildings via an enclosed pipe through a hole in the main doors.</p> <p>Other than bulk bedding litter is supplied wrapped in plastic wrapping which are transported into the houses before being spread.</p>
Dust build up around extraction fans / gravelled / concrete areas	Dust left exposed to the elements can in turn cause a number of issues from fine particle release during drier windy day or if left to become wet / waterlogged can blind French drainage systems or pollute water courses	Dust build up is to routinely be swept up where left on concrete / hard standing's. Where dust fall's gravel areas the gravel is to be routinely raked over to ensure blinding of areas does not occur. If heavy deposits accumulate over time the area of gravel is to be removed and replenished as required.
Destocking of livestock – thinning / final depletion	<p>Higher levels of dust release through increased ventilation</p> <p>Turning over of any litter during machine access and in house movements</p>	<p>Ventilation controls to be used to control the release of dust while still maintaining optimum temperature control throughout the depletion process</p> <p>Machinery movements to be kept to a minimum to help reduce bird excitement breaking up of litter which in turn reduces the airborne particles, allowing for a consistent even dispersal of air / dust through the ventilation systems.</p>

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Clean out (litter removal)	<p>Creation of dust during clean down</p> <p>Heaping up and removal of large quantities of potentially high levels of odorous material</p> <p>Loading of lorries / trailers</p>	<p>All internal areas are blown down using high pressure air lances before the litter is removed so areas of trapped dust are minimised. Where practically possible fans are blown inwards to the buildings (gable and side mounted) roof mounted fans are blown outwards with the fan running to aid dispersion while dust is being released. This process usually happens within 12 hours of the birds being depleted Litter is scraped into a large heap running the length of the centre of the buildings, this in turn help aid the drying process and minimises loading time and help make the process more efficient throughout. As this process</p>
		<p>carries a lot of hazards for operators working within the buildings, ventilation is required at all times to keep the environment clear of dust and ammonia build up. During this time ventilation is needed to run at maximum. Once all the litter is removed and the floors mechanically swept the ventilation system is the powered down.</p>
Washdown / disinfection	<p>Fine particles released / disturbed whilst using high pressure lances and fan assisted sprayers</p> <p>Fine particle generation from fan assisted sprayers</p>	<p>A process known as pre-soaking is carried out to dry buildings before high pressure washing commences. In this methodology a low pressure rinse is carried out to all internal areas of the building allow any dust deposits to be dampened and allows heavy debris to "pre-soak". This process allows a cooler environment to apply detergents to allowing them long cling activity help to break down any fat's and heavy staining which in turn reduces the amount of aerosol effect created from using high pressure.</p> <p>As disinfectants can be hazardous in use all buildings are sealed as best as practically possible before disinfection is carried out. The use of a fan assisted sprayer is routinely used to ensure full coverage to all internal areas is maximised within a controlled environment Products are only applied to a point of run to avoid excessive use. Once the building is disinfected buildings are left closed up allowing any mist, dust or vapours to settle / dry off before ventilation fans are used to assist drying of larger areas. Only DEFRA approved disinfectant and detergents are used on site and are applied by trained personnel,</p>

ON FARM MONITORING AND CONTINUAL IMPROVEMENT

- Internal relevant humidity, temperature and litter quality is to be monitored by farm personnel and recorded on each house card daily.
- Complaints and Subsequent actions are to be logged on site
- Staff are to receive annual training to include dust management and any new procedures.

COMPLAINTS PROCEDURES

Complaints received directly from the public will be notified to Environmental Health. Investigations shall take into account:

- The activities taking place at the time of the complaint
- The timing of the complaint
- The weather conditions at the time of the complaint
- Any abnormal operations either on site or nearby
- Any changes that may have been made to a standard operational procedure
- The receptor and the impact that may have been caused
- If further abatement techniques would better control / minimise the effects

Following all investigations into complaints, if the issue is caused by an operation at the site a discussion will be had with Environmental Health and any practical proactive measures which can be agreed will be implemented to help minimise the impact.

REVIEW

This document will be subject to review following any substantiated complaint or every four years whichever is sooner.