



Non-Technical Summary

Environmental Permit Application

Yew Tree Dairy PartCo Limited

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Basis of Report

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1.0 Introduction

SLR Consulting Limited (SLR) has been instructed by Yew Tree Dairy PartCo Limited (YTD) to prepare an application for an Environmental Permit (EP) for the Yew Tree Dairy milk processing facility located at 1 Pit Hey Place, West Pimbo Industrial Estate, Skelmersdale, WN8 9PS (the site).

The Skelmersdale facility treats and processes milk via pasteurisation, evaporation and drying with a throughput greater than 200 tonnes of milk per day.

This is considered to be a listed activity under the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations (EPR) 2016 (as amended):

- Section 6.8 Part A(1)(e) *Treating and processing milk, the quantity of milk received being more than 200 tonnes per day (average value on an annual basis).*
- Section 5.4 Part A(1)(a) Disposal, recovery or a mix of disposal and recovery of non-hazardous waste with a capacity exceeding 50 tonnes per day involving one or more of the following activities: (ii) physico-chemical treatment.
- Schedule 25A Medium Combustion Plants: Medium Combustion Plant Directive .

YTD took ownership of the site in 2010 when milk was processed at less than 200 tonnes per day. Since then, production has increased in phases, and it is now estimated that the site processes approximately 2,000 tonnes of milk per day. YTD do not currently hold an Environmental Permit for the site and are seeking to regularise this by applying for a Part A(1) bespoke Environmental Permit (EP) from the Environment Agency (EA).

This Non-Technical Summary (NTS) provides a summary of the facility along with a summary of key technical standards and control measures that are implemented at the site to support the EP application.

1.1 The Site

The site is centred on National Grid Reference SD 49354 04207 and lies approximately 2km south-east of Skelmersdale town centre within the West Pimbo Industrial Estate. It is accessed via Pimbo Road from the M58 which lies to the north. The site is immediately surrounded by other commercial and industrial premises with the nearest residential properties located approximately 435m to the north, beyond the M58 motorway. The river Tawd is located approximately 275m southwest of the site.

The site's location is illustrated on Drawing 001; the site layout on Drawing 002; emission points on Drawing 003; surrounding land uses and local receptors are illustrated on Drawing 004 and cultural and natural heritage receptors are identified on Drawing 005. Chemical storage areas are presented on Drawing 006.

A summary of the site's immediate surrounding land uses is identified in Table 1 below.

Table 1-1 Surrounding Land Uses

Direction	Land-Use
North	<p>Commercial buildings associated with the Pimbo Industrial Estate are located to the north, including Europarts, located immediately north of the site boundary.</p> <p>The M58 motorway is located approximately 300m north of the site.</p> <p>A residential housing estate is located approximately 435m north.</p>



Direction	Land-Use
South	Commercial buildings associated with the Pimbo Industrial Estate are located to the south, including Pit Hey Close roadway, located immediately south of the site boundary. The River Tawd is located approximately 275m southwest of the site. Holland Moss is located approximately 445m south of the site.
East	Commercial buildings associated with the Pimbo Industrial Estate are located to the east, including Walker Engineering, located immediately east of the site boundary.
West	Commercial buildings associated with the Pimbo Industrial Estate are located to the west, including Pimbo Road, located immediately west of the site boundary. The River Tawd is located approximately 430m west of the site, with Holland Moss is located beyond.

2.0 Overview of Site Operations

The site receives milk in road tankers and processes it via pasteurisation, evaporation and drying. Milk from the road tankers is pumped into feed tanks, with the transfer taking place within a dedicated, bunded tanker bay in the main yard designed to capture any accidental spillage. Once emptied, the road tankers are washed out within another area of the yard before leaving the site. Any full tankers temporarily stored prior to unloading are reverse parked over one of the loading bay areas which benefits from bunding such that any leaks will be collected within the site drainage system.

All milk processing is carried out within enclosed buildings. The processing consists of pasteurisation, evaporation to concentrate the milk and drying of the concentrate. Liquid and dry products are packaged before dispatch off site.

The site operates three steam generators which provide heating and steam for the process. These steam generators have a rated thermal input of 4.5MWth each and are run on natural gas. The site operates two dryers that are used to dry milk to create milk powder. These dryers have a rated thermal input of 8MWth each and are run on natural gas. Dust is removed from the two dryer exhaust stacks by bag filtration units.

Heat exchangers are integrated into the site processes to make optimum use of heating/cooling requirements. The site also employs 9 chiller units, 6 refrigeration units and air conditioning to maintain the required milk product temperature.

The processes produce several liquid effluent waste streams. Condensate from the vacuum evaporation process is recycled back into the process using reverse osmosis plant and is not discharged to sewer. Smaller amounts of waste milk and milky water are also produced, which are stored separately and tankered off-site for recovery as pig-feed. In addition, wash water is produced from the clean in place activities within the buildings.

All internal drainage, contaminated yard drainage and wash water is collected in a sump and over-pumped to the waste water tank. This is currently transferred to the foul sewer network under a trade effluent discharge consent with United Utilities. The contaminated water drainage system also incorporates a 300,000-litre underground surge tank which provides tertiary containment for accidental spills.



Uncontaminated surface water runoff from roofs and areas of the site which are not part of the process operations is collected in a separate drainage system and released to the local surface water drainage network.

An emergency diesel generator for back-up power and three kerosene tanks (2 x 10,000lt and 1 x 60,000lt) are also located on site. The kerosene tanks provide back-up fuel for the steam generators in the case of interruption to the gas supply. A 2,500lt diesel tank is also located on site to serve the forklift trucks.

3.0 Environmental Permit Application

3.1 Application Contents

To support this application, the following documentation is submitted:

The permit application comprises the following elements:

- Section 1: Application forms A, B2, B2.5, B3 and F1;
- Section 2: NTS;
- Section 3: Best Available Techniques and Operating Techniques (BATOT);
- Section 4: Environmental Risk Assessment (ERA);
- Section 5: Site Condition Report (SCR);
- Section 6: Surface Water Risk Assessment (SWRA);
- Section 7: Air Emissions Risk Assessment (AERA);
- Section 8: Noise Impact Assessment (NIA); and
- Section 9: Drawings.

The following drawings accompany the Environmental Permit application:

- Drawing 001 - Site Location;
- Drawing 002 - Site Layout and EP boundary;
- Drawing 003 - Emission Points;
- Drawing 004 - Site Setting Plan - Local Receptors;
- Drawing 005 - Site Setting Plan - Cultural and Natural Heritage; and
- Drawing 006 - Chemical Storage Areas.

3.2 Best Available Techniques and Operating Techniques (BATOT)

The BATOT document describes how the site has been designed and is operated in accordance with Best Available Techniques (BAT) as described in EA guidance and relevant BAT reference (BREF) notes. The document includes an overview of the technical, operational and management measures that are implemented at the site.

The activities undertaken at the site are designed and operate in accordance with the relevant sections of the following key guidance documents:

- Reference Document on Best Available Techniques in the Food, Drink and Milk Industries, November 2019.



- Reference Document on Best Available Techniques for Energy Efficiency, February 2009; and
- Best Available Techniques: environmental permits, published February 2016, gov.uk.

The BATOT is enclosed as Section 3 of this application.

3.3 Environmental Risk Assessment (ERA)

An ERA is required for the application, in accordance with the EA's requirements.

The ERA has considered the risks posed by the site to the environment. It includes qualitative assessments for the potential risks including amenity, odour, fugitive emissions, flooding, dust, point source emissions to air, water, and land, litter, mud, pests and potential for accidents and incidents. The assessment concludes that with the limited process emissions and implementation of the risk management measures described, potential hazards from the site are not likely to be significant.

The ERA is enclosed as Section 4 of this application.

3.4 Site Condition Report (SCR)

The SCR provides a baseline of the existing land and groundwater conditions at the commencement of permitted operations for the area that are included within the proposed EP boundary. This includes a risk assessment prepared in accordance with EA Guidance 'Environmental permitting: H5 Site Condition Report'.

The SCR is enclosed as Section 5 of this application.

3.5 Surface Water Risk Assessment (SWRA)

The SWRA has considered the risks posed by discharges to sewer which may subsequently impact the environment if not treated at the United Utilities Treatment Works. It includes assessment of relevant impacts for equipment that discharges to the ETP and subsequent effluent discharge point, in accordance with EA guidance '*Surface water pollution risk assessment for your environmental permit*'.

The SWRA assessed effluent discharge from YTD's site in Skelmersdale to the River Douglas via Newborough sewage treatment works.

Biological oxygen demand and suspended solids were modelled using the EA's River Quality Planning software and found not to pose a significant risk of environmental quality standard (EQS) exceedance in the downstream watercourse quality. Furthermore, they were found not to pose a significant risk of reducing the quality of the watercourse by a significant amount (more than 10% of the EQS compared to upstream quality). The pH of the effluent was found to be within the acceptable limits. The discharge was therefore deemed to have passed the H1 assessment.

The SWRA is enclosed as Section 6 of this application.

3.6 Air Emissions Risk Assessment (AERA)

Emission points to air includes three 4500kVA steam generators, the 900kVA emergency diesel fired generator, the two heat exchangers used in evaporative process and stacks from the drying process (producing dust). The AERA has considered the risks posed by the site to short-term and long-term impacts on both human and ecological receptors. Impacts are assessed against relevant Environmental Assessment Levels (EALs) for the protection of human health and against Critical Loads (CLo) and Critical Levels (CLe) for the protection of



vegetation and ecosystems, in accordance with EA guidance 'Air emissions risk assessment for your environmental permit' (the AERA guidance).

The conclusions of the AERA are as follows:

- The process contributions do not lead to any exceedances of the AQALs (long-term or short-term) for the protection of human health at any relevant exposure location outside of the Site; and
- The emissions from the plant are considered to cause 'no adverse effect' to the designated ecological sites.

The AERA is enclosed as Section 7 of this application.

3.7 Noise Impact Assessment (NIA)

A NIA was undertaken in accordance with *BS4142:2014+A1:2019 – 'Methods for rating and assessing industrial and commercial sound'* and the EA guidance document '*Noise and vibration management: environmental permits (NVM)*'. This included a baseline noise survey at a proxy location where noise from the site is not part of the soundscape, but all other residual sound sources are similar.

Based on the results of the NIA, it is considered that the results obtained from this assessment align with the EA's NVM criteria that noise from the site is "...*barely audible or detectable*..."

The NIA is enclosed as Section 8 of this application.

4.0 Conclusion

The overall conclusion from the studies undertaken as part of this EP application is that there is unlikely to be a significant environmental impact as a result of site operations.

The site will operate in accordance with its environmental management system which will continue to ensure that risks remain low.



