Non-Technical Summary

High Emotland Farm is applying for a permit for 48000 bird places for the production of free range eggs.
Birds will be housed at point of lay and depopulated at the end of the birds egg laying cycle, this will be done on an all-out all in basis. There will be approximately one cycle per annum. Birds are allowed to range by means of pop holes at the base of sides of the houses.
Before bird arrival the house floor will be covered to a minimum depth of 2 cm of bulk shavings. Temperature and humidity will be closely monitored on a daily basis to achieve bird comfort 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 gable and roof extraction fans in house 2. House 4 is naturally ventilated. The birds themselves generate sufficient heat to negate the need for any additional heating.
Water is via a nipple drinking system fitted with cups to reduce leakage and spills leading to drier litter.
Birds are fed a minimum of three diets during their cycle, 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 adjacent to the houses, from the feed bins the feed is augered into the houses and distributed to the birds via a pan feeding system.
Fallen stock will be recorded daily and securely stored in vermin proof containers awaiting regular collection by a licensed renderer.
Manure belts are operated twice weekly removing litter from the houses.
At depletion, any remaining litter will be removed from the site and sold. The site will then be pressure washed, disinfected and dried out prior to the cycle beginning again.
All wash waters will be contained in sealed underground dirty water tanks.
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 high dry matter. Containment of wash waters will prevent pollutants being released to the environment.
Records of tonnages of litter and wash water removal are recorded, wash water will be exported off site.