

Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte **Health Service Executive** 

**Environmental Health Service HSE Dublin/North East** Cavan and Monaghan 18 The Grange Plantation Walk Monaghan

Tel No: +353 (0) 47-30906 Fax No: +353 (0) 47-62678

Ref/ IMcC/CO'D/CMcE

17 July 2015

Ms Liz Leacy, **Programme Officer Environmental Licensing Programme** Office of Climate, Licencing & Resource Use **Environmental Protection Agency** Headquarters PO Box 3000 Johnstown Castle Estate Co. Wexford

Re: Application for Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control License Review.

Class and Nature of Activity: 6.1

The rearing of poultry in installations where the capacity exceeds 40,000 places.

Applicant: F. O'Harte Poultry Ltd, Creevaghy, Clones, Co. Monaghan.

Location of Facility: Creevaghy, Clones, Co. Monaghan.

Ref. No: P0837-02 EHIS Ref: 0335

Dear Ms Leacy,

Please find enclosed the Health Service Executive consultation report in relation to the above application.

If you have any queries regarding the report, the initial contact is Ms. Claire O'Dwyer, Acting Principal Environmental Health Officer.

The following HSE departments were made aware of the consultation request for the above application on 18 June 2015.

- Emergency Planning
- Estates
- Assistant National Director for Health Protection
- CHO

عدوة ضرية

The Environmental Health service response to the application is in the attached consultation report.

- The assessment is based on an assessment of documentation submitted to this office.
- A site visit was conducted on 14 July 2015.
- Environmental Health was not included at the Screening / Scoping stage of this application.
- All commitments to future actions including mitigation and further testing have been taken as read and all data results have been accepted as accurate.
- No additional investigations / measurements were undertaken.
- This report refers only to those sections of the documents which are relevant to the HSE.

All correspondence or any queries with regard to this report including acknowledgement of this report should be forwarded to Ms. Claire O'Dwyer, Acting Principal Environmental Health Officer.

Yours sincerely,

Claire O'Dwyer

Clane

A/Principal Environmental Health Officer



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Ms. Claire O'Dwyer
A/Principal Environmental Health Officer
Environmental Health Office
The Arcade
Main Street
Cavan
Co. Cavan

Re: Application for Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control License Review.

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Applicant: F. O'Harte Poultry Ltd. Creevaghy, Clones, Co. Monaghan.

Ref. No: P0837-02 EHIS Ref 0335

Dear Claire,

I refer to the recent submission of an application for an IPPC license review to the EPA for poultry production units from F. O'Harte Poultry Ltd., Creevaghy, Clones, Co. Monaghan. The IPPCL application for these units was submitted to the EPA on the 21-05-15 and is accompanied by an EIS. There are currently three fully operational poultry houses onsite.

The EIS was submitted in 2012 to obtain Planning permission Ref; 12/74 for the construction of two additional poultry houses. To date the site for the new houses has been cleared and is ready for the foundation stage which the applicant plans to have completed within the next few weeks. This review is required as the licensee proposes to increase bird numbers from 99,000 to 171,000 when the two new houses are completed.

The following are observations made whilst reviewing the said application, EIS and related documents in conjunction with EPA guidance documents and associated Legislation. Further observations were made during the site visit and discussions with Mr. Finian O'Harte on the 14 July 2015.

### Manure

Currently all manure is collected by a contractor who removes the manure from the houses and delivers it to mushroom composting facilities or crop growers. It is intended that this will also occur when the proposed new houses are in operation. There is an existing manure store which hasn't been used for manure storage to date as the contractor has always removed the manure immediately as the houses are being cleaned. This contractor will be used to remove the manure from the new houses.

### **Soiled Water**

Currently, soiled water from the three existing houses is contained in one tank. The site of the new houses is circa 200m from the existing houses. The applicant explained that one 5000 gallon soiled water holding tank will be installed for collecting of soiled water from the 2 new proposed poultry houses & not 2 separate tanks as proposed in the EIS. The proposed location of the soiled water tank is in close proximity to the deep bored well currently in use. The tank must comply with the Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry's Specification No. 123 "Minimum Specification Slatted Livestock Units: Reinforced Concrete Tanks", 1994. The importance of this was discussed with regard to preventing ground/well water contamination.

The EIS states that details of the REPS scheme for landspreading the soiled water have been included with the application. These details could not be located. The applicant confirms he spreads it on his own land. He was unclear regarding the provision of a Nutrient Management Plan for landspreading of soiled water. The EPA BATNEEC Guidance Note for the Poultry Production Sector states that The Nutrient Management Plan should incorporate the quantity of wash water". This needs to be clarified and addressed by the applicant.

### **Surface Water**

Surface water is generated from the roofs of the poultry units and the surrounding yards from the existing units to one storm water discharge point. The drainage from the new buildings will be connected up and discharge through a new discharge point yet to be completed.

It is recommended that Rain water harvesting be explored and utilized by these type of developments where appropriate.

## Well

There is no Group Water Scheme (GWS) connection available in the area of this site contrary to the EIS indication that it is connected to a GWS. There are two deep bored wells on site. Both wells are tested annually as per Bord Bia requirements and have been satisfactory to date according to the applicant. The main well in use is 240ft deep, bored about 10/12 years ago and used mainly for the drinking water for the birds and for the applicants domestic drinking water supply. The second well is used for washing of the houses and as a back up supply. There are no treatment systems on the wells due to satisfactory water results to date. These existing wells will supply the new poultry houses also.

The EIS states "there has been no known historical contamination of groundwater at this site". There was no sampling results/info in the EIS or application to verify this statement. It is recommended that the well water or other groundwater test results be included with such applications to substantiate such statements.

# Waste

The correct storage and disposal of the used fluorescent light bulbs was discussed. The applicant returns the used bulbs to the electrical supplier.

The dead bird carcasses are collected from the existing site by an approved haulier M.Galligan and not College Proteins as indicated in the EIS. This service will continue for the new houses also.

Further detail on mitigation measures in the construction phase to deal with fuel/oil leakages, person responsible for the supervision of the mitigation at this phase, etc is not clear in the EIS

**Energy Supply** 

The applicant has a back-up generator, which is located in a designated store.

The applicant is proposing to install a radiating heating system instead of the conventional open gas heaters system into the new houses. Also, windows are proposed to be installed in the houses to allow light into the building. These options will reduce gas usage and the carbon foot print of the operation.

## Chemicals

Chemicals are stored in a bunded container in a designated store.

#### Odour

Emissions to atmosphere from this farm include normal respiration gases and odours emitted from the houses and from the manure. Increased emissions may at times be associated with the loading of poultry manure once every 8-10 weeks for approximately 4 hours. This office has not received any odour complaints regarding this facility. At the time of the site visit odour levels appeared acceptable for this type of farming activity.

### Noise

The site is located in a rural environment. B.A.T. specifies the standard noise emission limit values of 55 (daytime) and 45 (night time) dB(A) at any noise sensitive location. This office has not received any noise complaints regarding this facility. At the time of the site visit noise levels appeared acceptable for this type of farming activity.

Receptors

There applicant's dwelling house is within 400m of this site. The next closet dwelling is >400m west of the proposed development. There is also a poultry unit >500m and a peat processing facility >400m from proposed development.

### **Pest Control**

Pest control is carried out by the applicant. Pest control records and measures will be maintained for the new houses by the applicant also.

**Visual Impact** 

Visually the existing poultry houses do not dominate the local agricultural landscape. It is expected that the proposed new poultry houses will maintain the existing trees and hedgerows as per the planning condition in order to reduce the visual impact of the new poultry houses.

Mitigation

It must be ensured that all mitigation measures for the construction and development phases are fully implemented.

Yours faithfully,

Irene McCabe

**Environmental Health Officer**