



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive

Submission No. 1

Environmental Health Service  
HSE Dublin/North East  
Cavan and Monaghan  
The Arcade  
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Ref/ BC/CO'D/ EHIS Ref: 0636

14 July 2017

Ms Dorota Richards  
Office of Climate, Licensing & Resource Use  
Environmental Protection Agency  
Headquarters  
PO Box 3000  
Johnstown Castle Estate  
Co. Wexford



**Re/ Application for a review of an Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control Licence.**

**Class and Nature of Activity/ Class 6.1**

**The rearing of poultry in installations weather within the same complex or within 100 metres of the same complex, where the capacity exceeds 40,000 places.**

**Applicant: Mr. Brian Coleman, Longfield, Castleblaney, Co. Monaghan.**

**Ref. No/ P0880 - 02**

Dear Ms Richards,

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

The following HSE departments were made aware of the consultation request for the above application on 28 June 2017:

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

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 12 July 2017.
- 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.
- We have made observations and submissions under the following specific areas;

Human Beings  
Water  
Climatic Factors  
Interaction of the above

Soil  
Air  
Material Assets  
Waste

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

Yours sincerely,



**Claire O'Dwyer**  
**Principal Environmental Health Officer**



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14 July 2017

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

**Re/ Application for Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control Licence.**

**Class and Nature of Activity: 6.1**

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

**Applicant: Brian Coleman, c/o Mr. Padraic Fay, CLW Environmental Planners Ltd, The Mews, 23 Farnham Street, Cavan, Co. Cavan.**

**Location of Facility: Longfield, Castleblaney, Co. Monaghan.**

**Ref. No: P0880 - 02      EHIS Ref: 0636**

Dear Claire,

I refer to the submission of an application for an Industrial Emissions License to the EPA for poultry production units from Brian Coleman, Longfield, Castleblaney, Co. Monaghan.

The licence application for these units was received by the EPA on the 27 June 2017 and following a review of the EIS submitted by the applicant, the Environmental Health Service conducted a site visit on 12 July 2017 where contact was made with the applicant Mr Brian Coleman.

There are currently two fully operational broiler houses on site and it is proposed to extend both of these houses and build a further broiler house adjacent to the existing houses. Capacity in the two existing broiler houses accommodates 52,000 broilers onsite. Rearing of chickens is carried out from day olds until removed off site for meat production. The proposed additional broiler house will bring overall capacity to 115,000 birds when completed.

The following are observations made during the site visit and whilst reviewing the said EIS and related documents in conjunction with EPA guidance documents and associated Legislation.

### **Receptors**

There are no neighboring dwelling houses within 300m of this site with the exception of one family dwelling. The applicant has stated that there have been no complaints to date and this office has not been made aware of any complaints.

### **Water Supply:**

The applicant advised that the facility receives its water supply via Donaghmoyne Group Water Scheme. He further advised that the supply is tested at least once annually by the meat processor Carton Bros. This office is not aware of any existing issues with this water supply.

### **Surface Water & Storm Water**

The EIS states that all clean surface water and storm water are drained via a piped system to a discharge point at a land drain. On inspection it was noted that this is not the case and that all clean surface water and storm water are simply permitted to drain naturally and directly to the surrounding green field. There was no evidence during the site visit to suggest that the clean surface water or storm water was being contaminated by soiled water nor was there any indication that by permitting the clean surface water and storm water to drain directly to the surrounding field would in any way adversely affect the surrounding water courses. There is no risk of flooding as the installation is located on an elevated site.

There has been no sampling by the applicant of groundwater in the neighbourhood of the site to establish baseline conditions of groundwater quality.

**It is recommended that the baseline conditions of the groundwater are established in the neighbourhood of the site and of the land spreading areas. Periodic water quality monitoring of relevant parameters as per licence. Where appropriate test wells should be provided at the site of the poultry unit. This is particularly important when considering the significant increase in production.**

### **Soiled Water & Wash Water Tanks**

Soiled water is washed into the soiled water tanks during clean down and there was no evidence, at the time of the visit, to indicate that soiled water was entering the clean surface water drainage system.

The soiled water tanks were not fitted with high level indicators.

**It is recommended that a condition of the licence stipulate the applicant fit a high level indicator to existing and proposed wash water tanks to help reduce any risk of contamination of surrounding water courses.**

The applicant stated that he empties the wash water tank regularly and either mixes the soiled water in the cattle slurry tank or spreads it on his land to ensure no overflow occurs. In any event it is subsequently spread on the family land surrounding the site in accordance with the Nitrates Directive however; the applicant currently has no Nutrient Management Plan in place.

**It is recommended, given the significant increase in production, that a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP) should be maintained by the applicant on site for the management of poultry manure and wash-water arising at the unit and should include:**

- Calculation of the quantity of manure and the amount of nutrients available from manure including any manure or other wastes imported.
- The results of soil fertility and drainage tests on existing or proposed land spreading areas.
- A representative soil sample, to a depth of 10cm, should normally be taken biennially from every 2 to 4 hectares and at least one per farm. However, where soil types are similar and cropping and treatments of the lands were the same

during the previous 5 years or more, a composite sample from an area up to 12 hectares is acceptable.

- An assessment of the relationships between manure application rates, cropping routine, crop nutrient requirements and existing soil nutrient status on all land spreading areas.
- Ordinance Survey Maps to a scale of 1:10,560 showing the location of the said land spreading areas and all environmentally sensitive features on the lands or in their vicinity; including *interalia* dwellings houses and sensitive buildings, drains, streams, watercourses and other sources of water supply.
- Agreements between 'importers' and 'exporters' of all animal manures or other wastes are required.

The Nutrient Management Plan should be up-dated and issued to the Agency for approval on an annual basis.

It is further recommended that the applicant is advised of Batneec Guidance Note Section 4.6 Spreading of Poultry Manure and the conditions therein.

The applicant is proposing to construct additional wash water tanks to facilitate the extension of the two existing poultry houses and new poultry house.

It is recommended that the applicant is made aware that the following applies to all poultry manure and wash-water storage structures whether or not on the site of the unit:

- A minimum of six months storage capacity dedicated to the unit is required.
- All construction work should be certified by a chartered engineer as having been constructed according to S108 or S123 as appropriate, (DAFF, 1987 and 1994).
- Where the poultry manure storage structures are constructed to another design specification, then both the design specification and the subsequent construction work should be certified by a chartered engineer as being suitable for the task and comparable to the Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry specifications.
- All storage tanks should be inspected by a chartered engineer and certified as structurally sound for the purpose they were intended subsequent to construction and at appropriate intervals thereafter.
- Leak detection facilities based on inspection chambers and perimeter wall and under floor drains should be provided as appropriate.

#### **Manure:**

Currently all manure/litter is collected by the contractor McCartney Contractor Ltd, Moynalty, Kells, Co Meath who removes the manure from the houses to the compost yards/recipient farmers. No Manure is stored on site and no suitable facilities exist to accommodate the required manure storage.

#### **Waste**

Waste is recycled where possible and otherwise disposed of correctly at the local Civic Amenity Centre in Monaghan and or returned to the supplier.

Dead birds are stored in suitable containers and collected by College Proteins, Nobber, Co. Meath, at 1–2 weekly intervals or more often if necessary.

#### **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 6–8 weeks for around 4 hours per house. This office is not aware of any odour complaints nor has the applicant received any complaints regarding this installation. At the time of the site visit odour levels appeared acceptable for this type of farming activity. There will however be increased activity at this facility when the new or extended poultry houses are operational.

**It is recommended that a condition of the licence stipulate that the applicant effectively manage odour on site at all times but particularly during destocking and during the cleaning process.**

**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. It is not envisaged that there will be any significant increase in noise levels from the facility following the expansion. To date this office has not received any noise complaints regarding this facility. At the time of the site visit noise levels appeared acceptable. There will however be increased activity at this facility when the new or extended poultry houses are operational particularly during the construction phase.

**It is recommended that a condition of the licence stipulate that the applicant effectively manage noise level on site at all times particularly during the construction, destocking and the cleaning process.**

**Pest Control**

Pest control measures on site are maintained and administered by the applicant. A visual inspection of the bait boxes was carried out. The boxes were in good condition however poorly baited. The applicant advised that he maintains all pest control records on site and inspects the boxes regularly.

**It is recommended that a condition of the licence place an obligation on the applicant to maintain adequate vermin control measures and maintain all pest control records at the installation and that these measures and controls are extended to the proposed new development.**

**Conclusion:**

The facility is operated in a very efficient manner by the applicant. Other than the issues stated above, the HSE have no further concerns at this time regarding this facility.

Yours faithfully,

  
**Barry Coady**  
Environmental Health Officer

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