

Submission		
Submitter:	Ms. Claire O'Dwyer	
Submission Title:	Submitted online	
Submission Reference No.:	S006038	
Submission Received:	26 March 2020	

Application		
Applicant:	Mr Paul O'Harte	
Reg. No.:	P0839-02	
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Attachments are displayed on the following page(s).



Submission		
Submitter:	Mr Claire PEHO	
Organisation Name:	HSE EHS	
Submission Title:	P 0839 -02	
Submission Reference No.:	S006032	
Submission Received:	26 March 2020	

Application		
Applicant:	Mr Paul O'Harte	
Reg. No.:	P0839-02	
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Environmental Health Service, The Arcade, Main St. Cavan. H12 N251

> Tel: +353 (0) 49-437 3414 Fax: +353 (0) 49-437 3427

23rd March 2020 Date:

1127 Our reference:

Environmental Licensing Programme Report to:

> Office of Environmental Sustainability **Environmental Protection Agency**

Johnstown Castle Estate

Co. Wexford

P0839-02 **EPA reference:**

Type of Consultation: **Industrial Emissions**

Mr Paul O'Harte, Legnakelly, Clones, Monaghan, A00 AA00 Applicant:

Nature of Activity:

Classes and Nature of Activity in accordance with the EPA Act 1992 as amended			
Class of Activity	Main Activity	EPA Act Sector (where applicable)	Class of Activity Description
6.1 (a)	Yes	Intensive Agriculture	The rearing of poultry in installations where the capacity exceeds 40,000 places.

Introduction

The following HSE departments were notified of the consultation request for the licence application on 3rd March 2020

- Emergency Planning Kay Kennington
- Estates Helen Maher
- Assistant National Director for Health Protection Kevin Kelleher / Laura Murphy
- CHO John Hayes

This report only comments on Environmental Health impacts of the licence application.

Site Location:

The site is located in west Co. Monaghan, c. 2.5 km northeast of Clones. The site comprises an overall area of c. 2.587 hectares owned by the applicant with a total of 39.39 hectares within the landholding. This proposed site is accessed via an existing entrance that currently services the poultry farm. The poultry house for which permission is sought would be located c. 70 m from the public road, and will be similar to other such developments, operated by the applicant, and, those operating elsewhere within the county. The proposed site is compact, and is designed to be safe, secure and efficient in operation. There are no dwellings located within 100 metres of the proposed development.

Water Supply:

The water supply on the farm is from the on farm well, which will also serve the proposed development.

The Geological Survey of Ireland has classified the aquifer as having a vulnerability rating of High (H) and a category description of regionally important.

The EIAR has stated that adverse effect on ground water from the proposed development should be nil, as there will be no process discharge to ground and minimal risk of accidental leakage or spillage of polluting liquid on the site. In addition the EIAR states that activities on the site will be carried out on an impermeable concrete base, with proper storm and soiled water separation and collection facilities.

The proposed development, will operate on a dry manure basis, whereby the manure will be removed from the houses after each batch and transported off site, there is minimal risk to ground water supplies in the area of the site.

The EIAR did not provide adequate information on local ground water supplies in the area. The applicant should consult the Geological Survey of Ireland (GSI) well database (www.qsi.ie) in order to identify local wells that may exist. In addition to this the applicant should carry out a door to door well survey of dwellings in close proximity (300m of site boundary) as the GSI well database is not exhaustive in terms of the locations of all wells in an area (as the database relies on the submission of data by drillers and the public, etc.). This is to ensure water supplies are protected both from the operation of the proposed development and to ensure compliance with Part 4 of the European Union (Good Agricultural Practice for Protection of Waters) Regulations 2017.

Soiled Water:

Soiled water from the proposed development will be collected in a dedicated soiled water collection tank, located at the end of the proposed house. It is estimated that the soiled water production will be c. 225 m³/annum. Existing and proposed soiled water collection tanks will have a combined capacity of 63.6 m³. Manure will be removed 7/8 times per annum at the end of each batch. This is to be moved off-site by the appointed contractor. This soiled water will then be applied to farmland in line with S.I. 605 of 2017 as amended.

It is recommended that the applicant is made aware that the following applies to all poultry manure and soiled 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.

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

It is recommended that the applicant install High Level Monitors to the proposed soiled water tanks in order to minimise the risk of unintentional overflow. It is further recommended that the applicant monitor and empty the soiled water tanks before they reach their capacity again to avoid any unintentional overflow.

It is recommended, given the significant increase in production and the size of the surrounding land on which soiled water can be spread, that the applicant monitors ground nutrients on his lands via a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP).

That the Nutrient Management Plan (NMP) is maintained by the applicant on site for the management of soiled-water arising at the facility 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
- 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.

Storm/Surface Water:

The EIAR states that adverse effect on surface water from the proposed development should be nil, as there will be no process discharge to surface water and minimal risk of accidental leakage or spillage of polluting liquid on the site. The only discharge from the site to surface waters will be

through a number of drains close to the site. Clean surface water from the site will be directed into these drains via suitable silt interceptors. Water in the drains that are close to the site flows towards the River Finn, which is 2.5km south of the application site.

Clean storm water will be discharged to the local watercourse via the discharge points. Site management is to be focused on ensuring that all storm water collection surfaces and facilities are maintained in clean and fully functional condition at all times so that the possibility of storm water carrying significant pollution to the stream is effectively eliminated. To ensure this Storm water emission points will be visually inspected and recorded on a weekly basis.

There will be no process discharge to surface water and minimal risk of accidental leakage or spillage of polluting liquid on the site.

Regardless of the ecological status of the surrounding water courses it is vital that the applicant take all due care in ensuring that there is no discharge of contaminated waters from the proposed development particularly during loading and cleaning. The current discharge point was not identifiable on site.

It is recommended that the applicant is advised to take all due care to ensure that soiled water does not contaminate the clean surface water particularly when loading or cleaning is in progress.

It is recommended that the licence stipulate that all discharge points must be labeled and identified on site for the purpose of monitoring and sampling including grid references.

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.

It is recommended that a condition of the licence stipulate that a surface water quality monitoring scheme is put in place and that the baseline conditions of the groundwater are established in the neighbourhood of the site and of the land spreading areas. That periodic water quality monitoring is established of the relevant parameters and that relevant records are maintained by the applicant for inspection.

Manure:

The estimated manure production as a result of the proposed development will be c. 1,150 - 1,250 tonnes / annum. The EIAR states that all the poultry manure from the farm will be removed off site by an authorised contractor, C.L.R. Co-op, on behalf of the applicant in line with the requirements of S.I. 605 of 2017, as amended.

Waste:

The EIAR states that dead animals and animal tissues will be accumulated in a covered sealed container on site for collection by Fallin Bird Ltd. an authorised contractor who regularly remove these carcasses, and any other such material to an authorised Animal By-products plant at Redhills, Co. Cavan, in compliance with existing requirements.

It is recommended that the applicant ensure that there is adequate storage for dead birds particularly when the second house is constructed and that all other waste products are disposed of at Monaghan Co. Co. civic amenity centre or returned to the supplier for recycling in a timely manner or removed by a licensed waste collector and that there is no accumulation of waste on site.

Odour:

There are no sensitive locations in close proximity to the proposed development so as to be adversely impacted by gaseous emissions. The site is greater than c.100 m from any existing non-family third party dwelling.

The EIAR states that Emissions to air from the site will be small and will not cause significant annoyance and will not interfere with amenity outside the boundary of the site. It also states that odour emissions from the site may be increased at times when birds and/or manure is being removed from the site, however this will only occur for a short period in every cycle.

The Environmental Health Service has not received any odour complaints regarding this facility.

It is recommended that the applicant be advised to continue to monitor odour from the installation.

Noise:

The EHS is satisfied that noise generated from the proposed development will not cause a nuisance. The site is located in a rural environment and there is a significant distance to third party dwellings which would suggest that the proposed development is not likely to have any adverse noise impact. The EHS has not received any noise complaints regarding this facility.

There would not be any source of significant vibration on the site.

Pest Control:

A pest control programme is to be practiced on farm in line with Bord Bia requirements. The procedure for pest control for the proposed development is a vital element of the management of this development. The developer should set bait at various strategic locations around the new house and maintain a weekly check and associated records. A map outlining the locations and numbers of baiting stations should be drawn up. A "Baiting Checklist" should be kept, recording details of Bait Station number, comments, actions and dates. Recorded checks should be carried out on a weekly basis and ameliorative action taken when/if necessary.

Conclusion:

The current facility appears to be operated in a very efficient manner by the applicant. Other than the observations stated above, the Environmental Health Service have no further concerns at this time regarding this proposed development.

Claire O'Dwyer

Principal Environmental Health Officer

Thomas Mangan

Environmental Health Officer



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Organisation Name:	HSE EHS	
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P0839-02
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Office of the Annual Company of the **Applicant:**

Dear Sir/Madam

Please find enclosed the HSE consultation reports in relation to the above licence application. If you have any queries regarding any of these reports the initial contact is Ms Claire O'Dwyer, Principal Environmental Health Officer, who will refer your query to the appropriate person

Yours faithfully,

Principal Environmental Health Officer