

4th April, 2024.

Ms. Aoife McMullan, Inspector,
Office of Environmental Enforcement,
Environmental Protection Agency
PO Box 3000,
Johnstown Castle Estate,
Wexford.

Your Ref: PO849 01 / SV29203

Re: Proposal for Slurry Storage Monitoring.

Dear Ms. McMullan,

I write in response to the issue raised in your Site Visit Report (Reference SV29203) regarding slurry storage monitoring on the farm.

Slurry Storage:

The pig unit was built in a manner that all the slurry tanks are sluiced to the deeper tank under the Loose Dry Sow House. This is now where the slurry is mainly extracted from on this site.

It can also be taken from a small reception tank on the other side of the site but in order to reduce and risk of tankers or vehicles bringing in disease to the farm that could be picked up and spread to the pigs – nearly all slurry will be extracted from the end of the loose sow house. This farm was stocked with high health (Minimal Disease) stock in 2023 and the maintenance of this high health status is critical to the profitability of this farm over the next few years. There is currently 11,429m³ of net slurry storage on the farm (Please see attached page). This is in excess of the 26 week storage requirement (based on 800 sows plus progeny producing 0.355m³/week = 284m³ of slurry per week).

Proposal to monitor storage capacity on the farm:

It is proposed to monitor the depth of slurry in a finisher, weaner and sow house. The proposed houses to be monitored each week are Row 1 (a second stage weaner house) Row 7 (finisher house) and the Loose Sow House as shown on the attached site plan. The depth from the bottom of the slats to the surface of the slurry will be measured each week in centimetres and a % of storage availability will be calculated as per the attached sheet. I trust and hope that this is to your satisfaction.

Yours sincerely,

