

19th January 2012

**The Secretary
Environmental Protection Agency
Headquarters
PO Box 3000
Johnstown Castle Estate
Co. Wexford**

**Re: Queally Pig Slaughtering Ltd., Grannagh, Co. Waterford,
IPPC Licence (Register No. P0175-02)**

**Subject First Party Appeal to Conditions of the Proposed Determination of revised
IPPC Licence Reg. No. P0175-02**

Dear Sir/Madam,

OES Consulting (FBD House, Fels Point, Tralee, Co. Kerry), on behalf of Queally Pig Slaughtering Ltd. (QPS), Grannagh, Co. Waterford wish to appeal the Integrated Pollution Prevention & Control (IPPC) Licence (Proposed Determination) issued by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on the 16th December 2011 (Register No. P0175-02).

In addition, although we understand this section to be informative rather than the subject of legal compliance, we would like to clarify a number of items in the Introduction to the Licence.

Introduction

"Hours of production at the plant are 0600 hrs to 1700 hrs Monday to Friday."

Clarification

We would request that the Introduction is changed to reflect that the hours of operation vary according to processing requirements.

Typical hours of operation are 06:00 to 18:00, Monday to Friday, with some plant maintenance and cleaning occurring outside of these periods.

Appeal to Proposed Conditions

The relevant Condition and grounds for appeal are set in the following pages.



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Condition 3.8 - Silt Traps and Oil Separators

"The licensee shall, within six months of date of grant of this licence, install and maintain silt traps and oil separators at the instillation:

- (i) Silt traps to ensure that all storm water discharges, other than from roofs, from the installation pass through a silt trap in advance of discharge;
- (ii) An oil separator on the storm water discharge from yard areas. The separator shall be o Class I full retention separator.

The silt traps and separator shall be in accordance with I.S. EN-858-2: 2003 (separator systems for light liquids)"

Grounds for Appeal

QPS agree that measures be implemented on the plant drainage system to further improve the control over discharges from the site to the River Suir.

We are concerned however, that the requirement for full retention Class 1 oil separators may be technically impossible to achieve owing to the surface areas involved and that, based on risk, Class 1 by-pass separators may provide a more appropriate solution. (Full retention separators are sized to retain the full volume of a stormwater event during periods of heavy rainfall and are generally applied to service areas and forecourts where the risk of significant spillage is high. In these cases, the forecourt only is included within the catchment for the separator, and this area is usually afforded some protection from rain by a canopy).

We would therefore request, that this condition is replaced by way of one requiring a

"Risk Assessment to be undertaken, which shall determine the environmental risk associated with each catchment within the plant surface water drainage system. The output of the risk assessment will be ranking of the risks associated with each catchment within the surface water drainage system, together with recommendations for implementation of suitable controls. Such controls may include silt traps and oil separator(s) as appropriate.

The design and specification of any control measures to be implemented will be to the satisfaction of the Agency."

Condition 3.10 - Catchment Collection System

"The provision of a catchment system to collect any leaks from flanges and valves of all over-ground pipes used to transport material other than water shall be examined. This shall be incorporated into a Schedule of Environmental Objectives and Targets set out in Condition 2 of this license for the reduction in fugitive emissions."

and;

Condition 6.12 – Inspection

"An inspection for leaks on all flanges and valves on over-ground pipes used to transport materials other than water shall be carried out weekly. A log of such inspections shall be maintained."

Grounds for Objection

The facility acknowledges the requirement to ensure that pipes transporting liquids with the potential to cause a negative environmental impact are operated in a manner which does not lead to any losses to ground.

As the site is a food processing facility, there is a requirement to thoroughly clean all lines after use, which typically occurs on a daily basis.

Other overground lines transporting non water streams are restricted to oil transfer lines between the oil storage tanks and the boiler house. These lines are subject to the regular preventative maintenance which includes a thorough integrity check of all valves and connections on the line.

It is noted that the majority of lines transporting material at the site are within banded areas, where, if a leak occurs will be collected in the foul water drainage system and be conveyed to the Waste Water Treatment Plant for treatment prior to discharge.

Due to the existing controls in place for ensuring that there are no leaks from the overground pipeline conveyance systems at the site, the requirement to undertake an additional weekly checklist on flanges and valves on pipelines within the foul water catchment is not considered necessary. The following points are made with respect to the existing control measures:

- During production cycles at the facility there is a full time maintenance presence at the facility to repair/replace any leaking flange or valve.
- The facility operates a robust preventative maintenance system which includes checks on valves on lines transporting materials across the facility. This will ensure that the incidence of leaks occurring is kept to a minimum.

Notwithstanding the control measures in place at the facility to ensure that the potential for any leak to ground from overground pipe occurs, it is noted that there are other factors, outside of environmental considerations which drive the facility to ensure that there are no system losses, these include:

- A leaking valve or flange results in chemical loss, which if unrepaired may cause corrosion of plant or equipment.
- Unnecessary loading of the wastewater treatment plant.
- Contamination of lines containing product.
- Process inefficiencies.
- Animal attraction.
- Generation of foul odours.
- Creation of health and safety hazards.
- Increased energy demand.

Owing to the existing controls in place at the facility, QPS feel that a weekly requirement to check flanges and valves on pipelines is not warranted in areas where in the event of a leak occurring it would be conveyed to the WWTP until repaired.

Furthermore, owing to the nature of the business and operator presence within production areas on a daily basis, the survey effort required in undertaking and logging a visual inspection of all flanges and valves at the site would involve a significant resource on a weekly basis, which, when considering the visual checks operators do in the area on an ongoing basis, would have more value elsewhere in the site environmental management and monitoring programme.

We would request therefore the frequency is changed to monthly.

Condition 4.3 - Noise

"Noise from the installation shall not give rise to sound pressure levels (Leq, T) measured at the NSL's and boundary of the installation which exceed the limit value(s)."

Grounds for Appeal

The current IPPC Licence addresses noise levels from the operation of the activity in terms of the application of day and night time limit values which are applicable at Noise Sensitive Receptors (NSL's).

Based on historical monitoring of noise levels since the IPPC Licence was originally issued, the activity is compliant with the 55dB(A) and 45dB(A) limit values at NSL's, and generally noise has not been a issue of concern at the site.

However, boundary measurement points, owing to their proximity to plant and services equipment typically have higher noise levels (as reported in past noise reports and submitted in site AER data.) The boundary points are however, removed from any Noise Sensitive receptors.

We request therefore that that "**boundary of the installation**" be excluded from this condition as per current licence and the limits remain applicable at NSL's.

Condition 6.10 – Inspection of Drainage System

"The drainage system (i.e., gullies, manholes, any visible drainage conduits and such other aspects as may be agreed and bunds, silt traps and oil separators shall be inspected weekly and desludged as necessary. All sludge and drainage from these operations shall be collected for safe disposal. The drainage system, bunds, silt traps and oil separators shall be properly maintained at all times."

Grounds for Appeal

We would request that this inspection be required on a quarterly basis, rather than weekly as currently proposed.

The drainage system at the site is well established and has been designed and laid to falls, with gradients designed to ensure adequate velocities to prevent settlement and within pipes or manholes.

Inspections undertaken since the Licence issued have confirmed this to be the case, and QPS have not observed deposition or build up of any materials in the system.

Owing to the past experience of the site in inspecting the drainage system, together with the resources required in carrying out inspections, we request the frequency to reduce to quarterly from weekly.

Condition 6.13 – Noise Monitoring

"The licensee shall carry out a noise survey of the site operations annually."

Grounds for Appeal

Queally Pig Slaughtering Ltd. are currently carrying out a noise survey every two years upon agreement with the EPA (Reference Attachment No. 1). The reduction in frequency has been based on the relatively constant and unchanging characteristics of the noise environment at the site as demonstrated over successive compliance noise survey's, which have found the site to comply fully with the noise limit values at NSL's.

We therefore request that this condition be changed so that a noise survey is required every **two** years in line with current agreed practice.

Condition 8.14 – Organic Waste Management

"Organic waste / organic fertilizer shall only be recovered by landspreading subject to the following conditions and the prior agreement of the agency."

(Ref Proposed Determination for full condition)

Grounds for Appeal

We request that this Condition is removed from the Queally Pig Slaughtering Licence.

QPS have a reciprocal arrangement with the neighboring Dawn Meats (Exports) Ltd (IPPC Reg. No. P0179-01) wherein QPS (under IPPC Licence Reg. No P0175-01) treat waste water from the Dawn Exports site. Dawn Exports have responsibility (under IPPC Reg. P0179-01 to manage the land spreading of organic wastes and sludge generated by the operation of the QPS Waste Water Treatment Plant.

Accordingly, the conditions and requirements governing organic waste management by land spreading, including the preparation of Nutrient Management Plans for the approved land bank, together with keeping of records and reporting are covered under the Dawn Meats IPPC Licence.

Accordingly, we request that this condition is removed from the Final Licence.

Schedule B.2 Emissions to Water**B.2 Emissions to Water****Emission Point Reference No:**

EW-1

Name of Receiving Waters:

Middle Suir estuary

Location:

E256851 N114197

Volume to be emitted:Maximum in any one day: 1800 m³Maximum in any one hour: 90 m³

Parameter	Emission Limit Value
Temperature ^{Note 1}	25 °C
pH	6 - 9
	mg/l
COD	100
BOD	40
Suspended Solids	60
Total Nitrogen	15
Ammonia (as N)	10
Total Phosphorus (as P)	2
Orthophosphate (as P)	1
Detergents	5
Fats, Oils and Grease	15

Grounds for Appeal

We request that the Emission Limit Value (ELV) for Total Nitrogen is set at a level of 30mg/l, and not the 15mg/l currently proposed in Schedule B2 of the PD.

Queally Pig Slaughtering currently operating the waste water treatment plant with emission limit value of 20mg/l for nitrates. Owing to the nature of processing activities at the site, ammonia and nitrogen containing compounds form a significant contribution to inlet loads at the WWTP. The plant has maintained a high degree of compliance with the Nitrates ELV over the years.

We are concerned however, that as the nitrates limit has been replaced with the bulk parameter of Total Nitrogen, and at a significantly lower ELV, the plant may occasionally experience difficulty in maintaining compliance.

We would therefore request that the ELV for Total Nitrogen be increased to 30mg/l, a level which is still well within BAT for our sector (80% Removal or 15 – 40mg/l).

In addition, taking the location of our discharge to a tidal estuary (transitional waters), where nitrogen is not rate limiting, we would suggest that there is limited potential for environmental impact due to this change.

Schedule C 6 Ambient Monitoring*Land used for Landspreading***Monitoring Location:**All lands included in the landbank ^{Note 1}

Conditions	Monitoring Frequency ^{Note 2 & 5}	Analysis Method/Techniques ^{Note 3/4}
Soil Sampling ^{Note 1}	Prior to the preparation of an NMP or Every six years	Morgan's P test Morgan's P test

Note 1: Each sample should be representative of a maximum area of 4 ha except where uniform cropping and land use has been in place for the previous five years or more. In the latter situation a sample of 12 ha is acceptable.

Note 2: the licensee may assume 'Index 3' for preparation of nutrient management plans where no soil samples are available.

Note 3: Peach, M. and English, L. (1944) 'Rapid micro chemical test'. Soil Science 57: 167.

Note 4: Soil analysis shall only be conducted by Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine approved laboratories.

Note 5: The above requirements may be substituted by the transitional provisions of Article 34 of S.I. 610 of 2010.

Grounds for Appeal

As described above, Dawn Meats (Exports) Ltd manage all land spreading operations associated with the organic waste generated by the QPS waste water treatment plant.

Accordingly, we request that this requirement be excluded from the licence as it is covered under Dawn Meats (Exports) Ltd. IPC Licence Reg. No. 179-01 Schedule 2(iv) Monitoring of Lands used for Land spreading.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions with respect to any of the above.

Yours Sincerely,



pp

Rory Ferguson

Environment & Energy Consultant

Cc. Ms Joanne Day, Queally Pig Slaughtering Ltd.

Correspondence with Agency on Noise Monitoring Frequency

Attachment 1

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DAWN PORK AND BACON

Grannagh, Waterford, Ireland.

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Fax: 051-850783

VAT No. IE 4821952 V

08.01.09

Dr. Juliette Mc Carthy
EPA,
Office of Environmental enforcement,
Headquarters, PO Box 3000,
Johnstown Castle Estate,
County Wexford.

Dear Dr. Mc Carthy,

I am writing to you in relation to condition 8 'Noise' of our IPC Licence. We are required to carry out a noise survey annually. The result of our last noise survey is similar to previous findings i.e. there is no potential significant impact on nearby noise sensitive receptors as a result of the normal day to day operation of the facility.

In total 7 noise surveys have been conducted by Malone O' Reegan and all the reports indicate compliance with our IPC licence. I am requesting the agency to review the frequency of the noise survey from annually to once every 2 years.

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Joanne Day

Received 26.1.07

Joe Can you file
Boase



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Enforcement

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Ms Joanne Day
Quality/Environmental Manager
Queally Pig Slaughtering Limited
Grannagh
Co. Waterford

24/01/2007

Our Ref: P0175-01/ap13dm

Dear Ms Day

I refer to your correspondence dated 08/01/07 and received by the Agency 17/01/07 with respect to your IPC Licence P0175-01 in relation to reducing the frequency of conducting noise surveys at your facility.

The Agency has considered your request and I am to advise you that it is agreed that the licensee may revert to carrying out a noise survey every two years in conjunction with the neighbouring licensed facility, Dawn Meats (Exports) Ltd as previously agreed.

Also, please note that you should ensure to clearly indicate your Licence Reg. No. on all correspondence in relation to your IPC Licence.

Please quote the above reference in future correspondence in relation to this matter. If you have any queries in relation to this matter, please contact a member of Team A - OEE Licence Enforcement, Wexford at the number above.

Yours sincerely

Damien Masterson
Inspector
Office of Environmental Enforcement



Dorota Richards

From: Peadar OLOughlin <info@oes.ie>
Sent: 23 January 2012 14:26
To: Licensing Staff
Subject: New Applicant objection entered for Reg no: P0175-02. (Reference Number: P0175-02-120123022607)
Attachments: P0175-02 Appeal to PD.pdf; P0175-02 Appeal Attachment 1.PDF
Importance: High

Title: Mr
First Name: Peadar
SurName: OLOughlin
Organisation Name: OES Consulting on behalf of QPS
Address Line 1: FBD House
Address Line 2: Fels Point
Address Line 3: Tralee
County: Kerry
Post Code: 0000
Email: info@oes.ie
Objector Type: Applicant
Oral Hearing: No

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