



NON TECHNICAL SUMMARY

FOR
HARVEST LODGE PIGS LTD

Licence Review Application

AT
Gortnamuc, Kiltormac, Co Offally

August 2020

NRGE LTD

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NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

A Licence review application is being made by Harvest Lodge Pigs Ltd of Gortnamuc, Kilcormac, Co Offaly to the Environmental Protection Agency (E.P.A) in respect to the existing pig unit. The enterprise is classed as **Activity Class 6.2 (b)** as follows

Class 6.2(b) The rearing of pigs in an installation where the capacity exceeds 2000 places for production pigs which are over 30kg

Below is a list of all relevant planning permissions obtained from Offaly County Council with respect to the pig unit.

| Reference Number | Issued | Description |
|------------------|-----------|---|
| 07466 | 16/5/2007 | Construction of over ground effluent tank and all associated works. |
| | | |

A Screening for Appropriate Assessment (AA) has been prepared by Envirico Ltd on behalf of Harvest Lodge Pigs Ltd Gortnamuc, Kilcormac, Co Offaly in respect of the proposed changes to the current development under a licence review application to the EPA, the farm will operate under Licence by the Environmental Protection Agency, an application was lodged with the Agency on 09/03/1998 (Reg No P0412-01) and was issued on 22/07/1999. The site is not located or boarding any sensitive ecological areas including Natural Heritage Areas (NHA) Special Area of Conservation (SAC) or Special Protection Area (SPA).

Relevant BAT documents include the following

- BAT Conclusions for the Intensive rearing of pigs
- Bref Assessment on BAT for Storage
- Bref Assessment on BAT for Energy Efficiency

The control of major Accident Hazards involving dangerous substances regulations 2006 do not apply to this farm.

1.0 Description of Unit

The production process on this farm will be similar to other such Pig units throughout Ireland, and will be in line with the requirements of the Department of Agriculture, Food & Marine and Bord BIA. The applicant will be responsible for the feeding, management and husbandry of the pigs and for ensuring that all of the required records are maintained.

The facility is located in the townland of Gortnamuc, Kilcormac, County Offaly, approximately 2km to the south of kilcormac village. The topography of the site is low-lying with land use in the wider surrounding area primarily made up of agricultural and private dwelling houses. Access to the site is via the Rath road, the northern, southern and western boundaries are agricultural grasslands and tillage fields, the eastern boundary is the Rath Road. The installation comprises animal houses, manure collection and storage tanks, ancillary structures and equipment necessary for the accommodation, management and husbandry of the animals, and the administration of the enterprise. The structures and equipment on the site were designed and installed for the purpose of breeding and rearing pigs for sale off of the site for processing into human food by the pork/bacon industry

The environmental condition of the site has been very good with no record of any spill or incident on site that would result in environmental contamination and the site is maintained in a clean and tidy manner at all times. The Licensee has a good compliance history since the licence was granted. The last EPA site inspection was carried out in 2017 and no non-compliances were found

Potable water is sourced via an onsite well (GW1) to which is monitored Annually under Schedule 4 (iii) of the current EPA licence P0412-01. All results have been within the normal range for these parameters, and don't indicate any negative influence from the site facility. These results will continue to be reviewed against future analysis results, for any indicative changes. There are 2 new additional wells GW2 and GW3 to which they will all be monitored Annually and for the same parameters as GW1. Storm water points have always been in compliance with licence conditions.

The main activities at this farm occur during normal working hours between 08.00 a.m. and 18.00 p.m. Stock inspections in line with normal farming practices are and will be carried out every day including weekends and holidays. Automatic feeding and ventilation systems operate on a 24-hour basis and in addition, essential activities may be carried out outside of core working hours.

| Animal Carcase | Numbers |
|-------------------------|----------------|
| Farrowing/Suckling Sows | 132 |
| Dry Sows | 480 |
| Maiden Gilts | 300 |
| Boars | 4 |
| Weaners | 2500 |
| Finishers | 400 |

The development will bring the capacity of this farm in excess of that for which a Licence was granted (P0412-01) from the Environmental Protection Agency (E.P.A.) 21/02/2011. A licence Review application is also required to be submitted to the Agency to incorporate these additional stock numbers and amended site boundary.

.2.0 The main sources of emissions/by-products from this farm include

Slurry- Pig manure is a rich source of plant nutrients and is a valuable fertiliser for farmland. It will be collected when local farmers acquire it for use on their farmland. The distribution of manure to individual farmer customers, who use it, is limited to the amount demonstrated to be needed by them to maintain their soil fertility, in accordance with the EU (Good Agricultural Practice for Protection of Waters) Regulations 2017 – S.I. No. 605 of 2017. Use of organic pig manure reduces the amount of chemical fertilisers used by farmers. Record 3 documents are submitted to the DAFM by the end of each year.

Storm water from roofs and clean yards will discharge to field drainage via a storm water collection system. The storm water discharge points will be regularly checked, inspected and monitored. There will be no discharge of any soiled water or any effluent from the site to any watercourse or to groundwater.

Veterinary Waste, General. Domestic waste Animal Tissue: All of these are disposed of by specialist contractors

3.0 Proposed technology and other techniques for preventing or, where this is not possible, reducing emissions from the installation

Slurry:

- Slurry produced on the farm is used by customer farmers as fertilizer
- Low crude protein and continued consultation with nutritionist is undertaken on the various diets throughout the different stages of production to reduce N excretion
- Low emission spreading equipment is used when spreading slurry to reduce emissions.
- Well maintained, and good housekeeping with modern manure removal will minimise any potential adverse odour impact and will minimise odour outside the confines of the site/immediate area.

Storm water

- Separation of clean and dirty water systems
- Clean and tidy yard maintained at all time.

- Good housekeeping ethos

Animal Tissue waste/carcases

- Variety of carcasses arise due to natural deaths on the farm to which are transported off site via a licenced haulier
- All carcasses are stored in designated, sealed tight, labelled bins/skips
- Good animal husbandry will keep the waste produced to a minimum

Noise and Odour

- Automated feeding systems are in place to reduce any noise/odour emissions
- Deliveries in and out of the unit only take place during normal working hours.
- Frequent slurry removal of site.

Veterinary + General waste

- Medications are given through the feed or water system where possible
- Recycling is practiced where possible on site
- Hazardous waste generated at this site will be in the form of spent fluorescent lighting tubes. The annual quantity of each of this class of waste generated on the site is and will be minimal. It is proposed to accumulate the used fluorescent tubes in a specialised storage area in the site pending periodic to be returned to the supplier.

4.0 Cessation of Activity

In the event the site has to be closed for whatever reason then the following steps will take place

- All animals sold
- All carcasses, veterinary waste, fluorescent tubes will be removed off site by the appropriate licenced haulier
- All slurry will be removed off site and tanks will be rendered safe
- All feed will be removed off site also
- All pig houses shall be washed and disinfected

All measures and guidance documents are met to the highest standard on this farm to ensure the environment is protected at all times and conditions of the licence are adhered to.