



**Mooresfort  
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## **Operational Report**

### Introduction

The activity on the site is in the rearing of pigs in a licensable installation. The facility is located in a rural area. 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.

### Operation/Process of Pig Farm

#### Operating Hours:

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.

#### Production Process:

The production process on this farm is in line with the requirements of the pig processors, and their customers. These arrange for a number of farm inspections to be carried out during the year, so as to ensure that all of their production standards and requirements are being complied with. In addition to the above the applicant is also subject to inspections from Bord Bia, the Department of Agriculture, Food and Marine, Offaly Co. Co., and the Environmental Protection Agency.

The Licensee is responsible for the maintenance and preparation of the houses, the production cycle within an integrated pig unit is continuous

The principal inputs are pig feed (e.g. cereals, soya, protein), water, veterinary medicines and a modest amount of energy (electricity and heating oil) for heating. Pig feed is acquired from the animal feed industry. Water for pigs and for washing is acquired from private wells on the site. Animal houses will be insulated to minimise use of heating fuel. The outputs are pigs (primary product) and pig manure (by product).



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### Feeding:

All pigs are fed by means of an energy efficient, low maintenance, automated feeding system. Feed is moved from the external feed storage bins, into the houses. Pigs are fed different diets depending on what stage of the lifecycle they are at. Each diet is tailored to meet different stages of the pig's nutritional requirements for protein/amino acids, energy, minerals and vitamins at that stage of production and to minimise nutrient excretion. This will ensure that pigs are healthy and contented and are reared properly so as to produce healthy efficient pigs which achieve set target food conversion efficiencies. All feed used on this farm is supplied from specialised feed suppliers.

### Management of Organic Manure:

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 2014 – S.I. No. 31/2014. 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.

### Management of Surface water

There are 2 no surface water monitoring points at the site – Monitoring Point A to Watercourse (south west of the site) and Monitoring Point B to soakway (north of the site). These are visually inspected weekly and tested quarterly for COD + Nitrate by an independent laboratory. Records of same are available on site for inspection

### Management of Waste

All waste generated on site is approached with ensuring it is in accordance with section 21A of the Waste Management Act 1996 applying in order of priority where necessary

- A. Prevention
- B. Preparing for Reuse
- C. Recycling
- D. Other recovery
- E. Disposal

Some animals die of natural causes before maturity. Dead animal carcasses are placed in a closed skip on the farm before being transported to a rendering plant by a licensed contractor. There is an existing programme in place for the control of vermin and pests in the site. There is no significant pollution caused by the activity. It is policy to minimise waste accumulation and to recycle as much as possible, but the recyclable volume is small



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### Bio-Security:

To minimise the risk of personnel bringing infection into the poultry farm all visitors are banned with the exception of essential personnel such as veterinarians and servicemen. All visitors sign a register and use appropriate disinfectant procedures.

Designated lorries are used to deliver feed to the minimal disease units. Each lorry is washed out and disinfected on a daily basis, to minimise the transfer of disease between units. The haulier who collects the pigs to bring to the processors facility, washes and disinfects the lorry before entering the site. The cull sow transporter for this pig farm unit is also instructed on the importance of cleanliness of their vehicle.

The final part of maintaining health within the unit is to allow sufficient space on the unit such that pigs are moved in an "All In – All Out" basis, as they progress from building to building. Each age group of pigs have a different level of immunity and even in high health status herds, it is important not to mix pigs of different age groups. Equally important is the necessity to clean out pens or rooms after each batch moves on to the next section of the unit. This avoids the build-up of bacteria and viruses which challenge the incoming pigs and which may affect their growth efficiency. On these units, special emphasis has been laid on providing a system that ensures adequate time for cleaning, disinfection and resting between successive batches of pigs.