

BASELINE REPORT

Completed in accordance with

European Commission Guidance concerning baseline reports under Article 22(2) of Directive 2010/75/EU on industrial emissions

-APPLICATION FOR A LICENCE -

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Purpose of this Report is to complete a baseline report in respect of the proposed poultry farm at Ahawilk, Feohanagh, Castlemahon, County Limerick. This report will be provided in support of an application for a licence to be submitted to the E.P.A.

This report has been completed in line with guidance issued by the European Commission concerning baseline reports under Article 22(2) of Directive 2010/75/EU on industrial emissions.

Article 22(1) of Directive 2010/75/EU on industrial emissions (IED) provides that, 'Without prejudice to Directive 2000/60/EC, Directive 2004/35/EC, Directive 2006/118/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 December 2006 on the protection of groundwater against pollution and deterioration and to relevant Union law on soil protection, the competent authority shall set permit conditions to ensure compliance with paragraphs 3 and 4 of this Article upon definitive cessation of activities'.

Article 22, paragraphs 2 to 4, contains provisions for the definitive cessation of activities involving the use, production or release of relevant hazardous substances in order to prevent and tackle potential soil and groundwater contamination from such substances. A key tool in this respect is the establishment of a 'baseline report'. Where an activity involves the use, production or release of relevant hazardous substances and having regard to the possibility of soil and groundwater contamination, a baseline report is to be drawn up before starting the operation of the installation or before a permit for the installation is updated for the first time after 7 January 2013. The report will form the basis for a comparison with the state of contamination upon definitive cessation of activities. Where information produced pursuant to other national or Union law reflects the state at the time the report is drawn up, that information may be included in, or attached to, the baseline report.

Article 3(19) of the IED clarifies that the baseline report needs to provide information on the state of soil and groundwater contamination by relevant hazardous substances.

CLW Environmental Planners Ltd have been retained by O'Connell Poultry Farms Ltd. to complete a baseline screening report in respect of an application for a licence.

1.1 STAGES IN PRODUCING A BASELINE REPORT

A number of key tasks should be undertaken to both determine whether a baseline report needs to be produced for a particular situation and in order to produce the baseline report itself.

Eight stages have been identified in this process, covering the following main elements:

Stages 1-3: to decide whether a baseline report is required;

Stages 4-7: to determine how a baseline report has to be prepared;

Stage 8: to determine the content of the report.

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2.0 DETERMINATION AS TO THE REQUIREMENT FOR A BASELINE REPORT (I.E. COMPLETION OF STAGES 1 – 3)

2.1 Stage One

Activity - Identify which hazardous substances are used, produced or released at the installation and produce a list of these hazardous substances,

and

Objective - Determine whether or not hazardous substances are used, produced or released in view of deciding on the need to prepare and submit a baseline report

The site is an existing poultry farm. The proposed development is the rearing of broiler chickens from day old to market weight. Birds are to be transferred to the farm from a specialised hatchery. The production process involves the use provision of animal feed and water to the birds and the production of broilers/chickens and organic fertiliser.

This will be a well managed site with no records of any incident on site with the potential for soil/groundwater contamination.

➤ **Use of Hazardous Substances**

No Hazardous substances are used on the farm with the exception of a small amount fluorescent tubes for lighting and disinfectants (which may contain hazardous substances).

Upon completion of the proposed development a generator will be located on-site, and same will involve a small amount of ancillary fuel storage.

➤ **Production of Hazardous Substances**

No Hazardous substances are produced on the farm.

➤ **Release of Hazardous Substances**

No Hazardous substances are released from the farm.

2.1 Stage Two

Activity - Identify which of the hazardous substances from Stage 1 are 'relevant hazardous substances' (see Section 4.2 referred to below). Discard those hazardous substances that are incapable of contaminating soil or groundwater. Justify and record the decisions taken to exclude certain hazardous substances.

and

Objective - To restrict further consideration to only the relevant hazardous substances in view of deciding on the need to prepare and submit a baseline report

Section 4.2 of Guidance:

'Relevant hazardous substances' are defined as (Article 3(18) and Article 22(2), first subparagraph) are those substances or mixtures defined within Article 3 of Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 on the classification, labelling and packaging of substances and mixtures (CLP Regulation) which, as a result of their hazardousness, mobility, persistence and biodegradability (as well as other characteristics), are capable of contaminating soil or groundwater and are used, produced and/or released by the installation

➤ Hazardous Substances Identified in Stage 1

1. FLUORESCENT TUBES

(containing mercury EC No. 231-106-7 as per Article 3 of Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008)

2. Vircon S Disinfectant (or similar)

(containing Sulfamidic Acid EC No. 226-218-8 as per Article 3 of Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008)

3. DIESEL (Not Currently Stored On-site)

(EC No. 302-695-9 as per Article 3 of Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008).

2.2 Stage Three

- Activity** - For each relevant hazardous substance brought forward from Stage 2, identify the actual possibility for soil or groundwater contamination at the site of the installation, including the probability of releases and their consequences, and taking particular account of:
- the quantities of each hazardous substance or groups of similar hazardous substances concerned;
 - how and where hazardous substances are stored, used and to be transported around the installation;
 - where they pose a risk to be released;
 - In case of existing installations also the measures that have been adopted to ensure that it is impossible in practice that contamination of soil or groundwater takes place.

- Objective** - To identify which of the relevant hazardous substances represent a potential pollution risk at the site based on the likelihood of releases of such substances occurring. For these substances, information must be included in the baseline report.

1. FLUORESCENT TUBES

Quantity and Use – Electrician will be contracted to replace lights as necessary and remove used lights off site immediately. The majority, if not all lights will be LED lights in preference to fluorescent tubes. If tubes are to be stored on site this will be in a designated storage area, (impervious floor and protected from breakage and removed off site at regular intervals.

Potential For Contamination of soil/groundwater – No source – receptor (soil/water) pathway.

Decision - Exclude from further consideration

2. VIRCON S DISINFECTANT (OR SIMILAR)

Quantity and Use – Will be Stored in powder form in 5 – 10 kg Buckets and/or 1-5 gallon drums in a designated bunded storage area, (impervious floor) and protected from damage.

Potential For Contamination of soil/groundwater – Risk from spillage. Due to impervious floor - no source – receptor (soil/water) pathway.

The Virkon®S oxygen-based chemistry contains simple organic salts and organic acids and the active ingredient decomposes by a variety of routes within the environment, in soil and water, breaking down to form the naturally occurring substances, potassium salts and oxygen. The major organic components are classified as readily biodegradable according to OECD and EU tests. Virkon®S is not classified as R53* and is not persistent in the environment, according to the standard European process for the classification and labelling of chemical preparations.

Used as a foot dip at a dilution rate of 1 : 100.

Decision - Exclude from further consideration

3. DIESEL (Not currently stored on-site)

Quantity and Use– Diesel use on site will be minimal, and may be associated with the requirement for a back-up generator

Potential For Contamination of soil/groundwater – Risk from failure of fuel storage tank, and/or filling operations.

Source – receptor (soil/water) pathway, will be blocked due to provision of impervious concrete base and/or bunding. No evidence of any spillage /contamination.

Decision - Exclude from further consideration

3.0 CONCLUSIONS

The conclusion on the completion of Stages 1 – 3 of this baseline screening report is that it is considered that a baseline report is not required,

- due to the greenfield nature of the farm, quantities of the hazardous substances used at the installation, and characteristics of the site there is no significant possibility for contamination of soil or groundwater,

and

- In case of this existing installation, where measures are to be taken which make it impossible in practice that contamination of soil or groundwater occurs.



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20/9/21

Date

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