

## Site Operational Report

### **1. Operating Hours**

Staff operating hours are, and will be, primarily 06.00 to 18.00 Monday to Friday and 07.00 to 13.00 on Saturday and Sunday, however automatic feeding and ventilation systems will be operating outside of these hours. This farm is operated in such a way that only essential activities are carried out outside of these hours. The pig farm manager/owner, Jim and/or Mark Wright will be available at all times should any emergency arise regarding this farm. In addition Mr. Wright will retain overall responsibility for the day to day running of the farm. The currently proposed developments represent a change to the operating model on the farm, to facilitate the incorporation of the pig house located adjacent to the current site boundary.

**The license review is specifically to incorporate the existing activities located outside of the site boundary (and operated by Mr. David Erskine), within the licensed site and under the operation of the licensee.**

### **2. Breeding**

This 1200 sow (Excl. served gilt as per licence specifications) breeding farm produces weaner pigs at circa. 30 kg live-weight, all of which were moved off site for further rearing unless they are selected as replacement breeding stock. The proposed development will see the incorporation of an additional existing 1,000 production pig places, currently operating outside the licence boundary inside the license boundary, to facilitate the rearing of additional gilts.

In order to ensure that the maximum performance is achieved from this farm with the minimal amount of inputs significant attention is paid to the genetics of the pigs produced. The programme to be carried out on the breeding farm will ensure that only pigs with the top performance in terms of growth rate and feed efficiency are produced.

High health status is, and will remain, a priority on this unit. The proposed management team will be highly trained and experienced, and this will be complemented with additional personnel where required. All in – all out movement of pigs is/will be practised on this farm. 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. Hygiene routines are carefully planned and monitored. The rooms will be carefully washed and rested between batches. Hygiene and health status on the farm will be improved by rearing grower pigs off-site.

The applicant is committed to providing a system that ensures adequate time for cleaning and resting the rooms between batches. One of the objectives of the proposed development is to allow improvements to this hygiene and washing routine. Adequate accommodation will mean that there is more time allowed between emptying the farrowing / weaner accommodation and re-filling with the next batch of pigs. This will allow more comprehensive washing, soaking, cleaning and drying out. The activity has been designed

to facilitate this improved hygiene and washing routine at the proposed stock levels. Pens will be adequately soaked prior to washing to reduce water and energy usage associated with this practice.

### **3. Feeding**

Pigs will be fed with a computerised wet feeding system and/or a probe feeding system. Feed will be supplied to the farm from the applicants own mill, and mixed with water/whey etc. in the computerised wet feeding tank. From here it is pumped to each of the houses. Weaner pigs will be fed on a wet or dry feeding system, in line with current activities.

The additional house will be integrated with the existing feeding system on the farm.

### **4. Water supply and use.**

The additional house will be integrated with the existing water system on the farm.

### **5. Heating and Ventilation**

Energy supply to the farm will be an electric 3-phase supply @ 220 and 380 volts. A standby generator is provided in the event of a disruption to the power supply.

#### **(a) Heating**

- *Existing unchanged*
- *Additional House – No supplementary heating required.*

#### **(b) Ventilation**

- All ventilation on this farm is/will be Computer controlled mechanical ventilation, or Automatically Controlled Natural Ventilation.

## 6. Housing

### ➤ *Sow/ Gilt /Weaner Houses:*

- *Same will be unchanged from existing activities*

### ➤ *Gilt Rearing Houses:*

- Pigs enter gilt accommodation at a weight of c. 25-30 kg's, and are stocked at stocking rates of c. 0.75 - 1 m<sup>2</sup> /pig. Pigs will grow until they reach sale weight of c. 140 Kg live-weight,

All ventilation on this farm is/will be Computer controlled mechanical ventilation, or Automatically Controlled Natural Ventilation.

## 7. Manure Storage Structures and capacities

All pigs are/will be housed in slatted houses with under house manure storage tanks. The slurry is collected directly through these slatted floors and stored in tanks located below slat level. The manure storage facilities associated with the activity are of mass concrete to a specification that ensures a watertight seal, i.e. Department of Agriculture, Food and The Marine, S123, Minimum Specification for Bovine Livestock Units and Reinforced Tanks.

A freeboard allowance of 200mm has been allowed on all covered underground manure storage tanks, and 300mm on all uncovered tanks, in accordance with S.I. 113 of 2022 as amended,

## 8. Process of Production

The license review is specifically to incorporate the existing activities located outside of the site boundary (and operated by Mr. David Erskine), within the licensed site and under the operation of the licensee. Same will not alter the process of production on the farm but will facilitate the rearing of additional gilts, in much the same way as the house is currently operated by Mr. David Erskine.

## 9. Procedures of Production

The applicant is currently approved under the Bord Bia approval system and other industry quality assurance programme(s).

The daily procedure follows / will follow the Bord Bia Code of Practice for pig welfare and consists / will consist of the following procedures:

### *Dry Sow/Gilt House(s).*

- \* ensure all sows/gilts have adequate feed and water
- \* check health status and treat accordingly
- \* check sows/gilts returning to cycle after service
- \* scrape excess faeces from behind sows/gilts.

### *Farrowing House(s).*

- \* ensure all sows have adequate feed and water
- \* check the health status of this area and treat as required.
- \* check house temperature and heat pad temperature
- \* check and record births and deaths.
- \* remove excess faeces, farrowing debris, dead and mummified pigs at the time of farrowing for hygiene purposes.
- \* manually remove all faeces at weaning to reduce water waste at power washing

### *Weaner House(s).*

- \* ensure all pigs have adequate feed and water
- \* check the health status of this area.
- \* check temperature and ventilation rates
- \* check for water wastage via drinkers