



02/06/2017

Dear Gerallt Davies,

PROPOSAL: **Erection of a 16,000 bird free range egg production unit including silos and associated works**

LOCATION: **Upper house Farm, Felindre, Powys**

Thank you for consulting Natural Resources Wales about the above proposed development at pre-application stage on the 31/03/2017.

This response is to the enquiry regarding advice specifically on SCAIL modelling.

Please note that our comments are without prejudice to any comments we may wish to make when consulted on any subsequent planning application or permit (either at pre-application or application stage) for the proposed development. At that time there may be new information available which we will need to take into account in making a formal response.

Protected Sites and aerial emissions

Intensive agricultural units have the potential to impact protected sites through aerial emissions (ammonia and nitrogen deposition). For this pre-application consultation NRW's screening criteria considered the impact a unit may have on any Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) within 5km of the unit; and any Special Area of Conservation (SAC) / Special Protection Area (SPA) within 10km of the poultry unit.

To note from the 01/04/2017 these screening criteria have been changed, any new consultations will be reviewed under the new screening criteria as per attached email sent 29/03/2017 by Richard Ninnes NRW.

We have reviewed the SCAIL report submitted in support of this proposal. We note that the River Teme SSSI was not modelled due to its designation as Rivers and Streams. However, we believe that it should be included.

- River Teme SSSI

The background ammonia is 0.94µg/m³ and background nitrogen deposition is 17.36kgN/ha/yr.

The ammonia critical level is 3µg/m³ and the nitrogen critical load is not applicable for this site.

The farm process contribution to ammonia is 1.05µg/m³, which is 35% of the critical level.

In conclusion, the process contributions of ammonia deposition from the proposed unit are above the thresholds which we apply in our assessment of potential impacts on SSSIs, and therefore detailed modelling will be required to assess the effects of the proposal on this protected site.

- Rhos Fiddle SSSI

The background ammonia is $0.94\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ and background nitrogen deposition is $17.36\text{kgN}/\text{ha}/\text{yr}$.

The ammonia critical level is $3\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ and the nitrogen critical load is $10\text{kgN}/\text{ha}/\text{yr}$ for the site.

The farm process contribution to ammonia is $0.01\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, which is 0.33% of the critical level and the nitrogen contribution is $0.05\text{kgN}/\text{ha}/\text{yr}$ which is 0.50% of the relevant critical load.

In conclusion, we are satisfied that the process contributions of ammonia and nitrogen deposition from this proposed unit are below the thresholds we apply in our assessment of potential impacts on SSSIs.

Detailed Modelling

To conclude, to assess this proposal against the potential effects on the protected sites in the vicinity of the proposal site, detailed air quality modelling assessments will be required.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can be of any further assistance to you.

Our comments above only relate specifically to matters related to your enquiry, i.e. the SCAIL modelling aspects of your proposal. We have not considered potential effects of other matters in relation to our remit that we may have concerns with, when providing our response to the local planning authority. "Natural Resources Wales and Planning Consultations" (March 2015) which is published on our website: (<https://naturalresources.wales/media/5271/150302-natural-resources-wales-and-planning-consultations-final-eng.pdf>) includes a checklist of areas where we will provide comment. You should also be advised that, in addition to planning permission, it is your responsibility to ensure that you secure all other permits/consents relevant to your development.

Yn gywir / yours faithfully

Siôn M Williams

Siôn M. Williams

Ymgynghorydd Cynllunio Datblygu / Development Planning Advisor

Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru / Natural Resources Wales