
Method Statement Pollution Prevention

Culverting an existing ditch in connection with the erection of a free range egg production unit including silos and associated works at Crugeran

Prepared for R O & R PARRY



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Method Statement and Pollution Prevention Plan for Crugeran, Sarn Meyllteyrn

1. Introduction

This plan is submitted in relation to the approved planning application for a new free range poultry building at Crugeran, Sarn Meyllteyrn. The construction and site operation of the development will implement reasonable avoidance measures and controls to ensure the development does not create any unacceptable adverse impact on the immediate environment

The plan has been written with regard to national legislation and especially that of the Environment Agency's Pollution Prevention Guidelines (PPG5 & PPG6 – 2007).

Although general measures for the build are set out in this plan, the plan is specifically regarding the proposed culverting of the existing watercourse, which is required given the buildings siting over the top of the watercourse.

The culverting of this watercourse was informally accepted prior to the submission of the planning application, given the planning departments requirement to site it in a sensitive location.

As part of the discussions, it was verbally accepted that the applicant would compensate against the culverting of the existing ditch by opening an existing culverted part of the ditch.

2. Method of Culverting

The applicant proposes to limit the environmental impact of this proposal by starting and finishing the culvert before any work commences on the main shed. This will limit the potential pollution associated with the initial culverting, by reducing the amount of material, vehicles and operations on site.

We envisage that culverting would occur when relatively dry, to minimise the amount of water in the ditch. The vegetation would be strimmed down a day before the culverting commences, to allow any possible species to vacate the ditch. Then the drain will be put in place, to ensure the water goes through the drain before the filling starts.

Once that's completed, the applicant will open the existing culverted area, which will mean that necessary compensation measures have been put in place. There are limited impacts that could occur through the culverting, given the existing open nature of the ditch and the fact that the drain will be put in place prior to any major works commencing on site.

3. Potential Pollutants

There are several potential pollutants that could arise from the construction and operation of a new free range poultry building, and therefore it is important to identify these elements

prior to works commencing, in order to put some safeguarding measures in place, to reduce and minimise any potential pollution to the immediate and surrounding environment.

The main potential pollutants for this scheme are identified below:

- Silt
- Cement and Concrete
- Fuel/chemical spills
- Foul water drainage

Each potential pollutant will be considered separately and the appropriate measures will be set out to minimise any potential pollution each activity might create.

4. Silt

Silt is a common potential issue in any development, as groundworks have the ability to implicate the existing surface water systems.

- During construction, we will minimise the amount of soil stripping in order to minimise the volume of contaminated surface water run-off.
- We will only remove vegetation from areas that need to be exposed in the near future.
- Plant and wheel washing facilities will be implemented during construction works, of which will be:
 - on a hard standing area at least 10 metres from any watercourse,
 - The run off from this area will be collected in a sump, of which will be disposed of either via a tanker off site, or if clean, disposed of by spreading on grassland.
- The site access road will be brushed and scraped regularly to reduce dust and mud deposits.

5. Cement and concrete

It is acknowledged that concrete and cement are very alkaline and corrosive and can cause pollution. Given that the development includes both elements to construct the building and hardstanding, it is important to put some measures in place to minimise the risk of pollution. The measures proposed for the concrete and cement mixing and washing area are to be implemented as follows:

- They are to be sited a minimum of 10m from any watercourse or surface water drain to minimise the risk of run off.
- Have a re-circulation system for water reuse to minimise the risk of pollution.

- Any wash water from this process will be collected and contained in order for it to be disposed off-site.

6. Fuel and Chemical spills

Given the limited amount of time any machinery will be on site, it is highly unlikely that any fuel or chemical spills will occur. However if refuelling takes place, the following steps will be taken:

- refuel mobile plant in a designated area, on an impermeable base away from drains or watercourses
- use a bunded bowser
- supervise all refuelling and bulk deliveries
- check the available capacity in the tank before refuelling
- don't jam open a delivery valve
- check hoses and valves regularly for signs of wear
- turn off valves after refuelling and lock them when not in use
- position drip trays under pumps to catch minor spills
- keep a spill kit with sand, earth or commercial products for containment of spillages
- provide incident response training to the staff and contractors

If any fuel or chemical spill does occur during construction or operation, a spill kit containing sand/earth will be used immediately.

7. Foul water drainage

A dirty water tank will be installed underground to retain all contaminated water and wash out water. The dirty water will then be collected and taken off site by a sealed tanker and disposed of whenever it is full.

The drainage system implemented will ensure that the foul water and clean water are kept separate and therefore no clean water (of which will be discharged into the nearby stream) will be contaminated.

8. Environmental Appraisal

The existing ditch has limited biodiversity opportunities, with little or no water flowing throughout the year, and open to livestock. As part of the planning application, the biodiversity unit had no objection to the proposal.

In light of the above, the additional landscaping provided and the opening up of an existing culvert, the overall biodiversity of the site will improve as part of this development.

9. Incident response

If any pollution incident occurs, the developer and applicant will report the incident immediately to NRW. The potential incidents include any spillage, contaminated run-off, flooding, damage to habitats. Staff will be informed of their duty to report such incidents and carry out the work to minimise the risk of any pollution incidents occurring.

10. Conclusion

Considering the proposed measures that will be implemented during construction and operation, there is minimal risk of any pollution occurring during the development operation or construction.