
Method Statement Pollution Prevention

Erection of an organic free range
egg production unit including
silos and all associated works

Prepared for J Thorne & Son

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Method Statement and Pollution Prevention Plan for Rhosddu Farm, Crymych, Pembrokeshire, SA41 3RB

1. Introduction

This plan is submitted in relation to the planning application for the erection of an organic free range egg production unit at Rhosddu Farm. 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).

2. Potential Pollutants

There are several potential pollutants that could arise from the construction and operation of new 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.

3. 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 via a tanker off site.

- The site access road will be brushed and scraped regularly to reduce dust and mud deposits.
- Preventative measures such as silt fences/bales will be placed on top of slopes to reduce the risk of silt contamination.

4. 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 buildings 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.

5. 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.

6. Foul water drainage

The drainage system implemented will ensure that the foul water and clean water are kept separate to ensure that no clean water will be contaminated. The clean surface water from the roof of the building will be collected in an underground storage tank to be used for washing down purposes. Any surplus clean water will be discharged into existing farm soakaways.

The construction of the floor of the building will incorporate a damp proof membrane preventing any dirty water percolating into the ground below the building. A slump in the floor will drain to a further below ground sealed tank, which will allow collection of any dirty water primarily arising from the washing down process at the end of the production cycle. This dirty water will then be spread by vacuum tanker over the grassland and arable land.

We refer you to the drainage plan.

We refer you to the ranging plan which shows the area the birds from the unit will range over. The land surrounding the laying house will be divided into a series of paddocks which the birds are allowed to use for periods of up to 6 -8 weeks each. The length of time that the birds are allowed to use individual paddocks will vary depending on the soil type, drainage, grass cover and weather conditions. We also refer you to the manure management plan which states that any watercourses within the ranging area will be fenced out to prevent any manure entering the watercourse, in line with the Code of Good Agricultural Practice.

7. Incident response

If any pollution incident occurs, the developer and applicant will report the incident immediately to NRW on 03000 65 3000. 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.

8. 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.