
Method & Pollution Prevention

Erection of a free range egg
production unit & all
associated works on land on
Moat Lane Caersws, Powys
SY17 5AF

Mr G Morgans

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1. Introduction

This plan is submitted in relation to the planning application for the erection of a free range egg production unit on land at Moat Lane, Caersws. 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 development will be run in accordance with The Water Resources (Control of Agricultural Pollution) Regulations (Wales) 2021.

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

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 sealed water tank will be 1,000 gallons and is shown on the detailed drainage plan. The dirty water tank will be fitted with a level filling alarm that will be linked to the mobile phones of the applicant. When the dirty water tank is reaching the optimum storage level the alarm will trigger and the applicants will immediately empty the dirty water tank.

In the event of a disease outbreak the dirty water will be contained within the dirty water tank and will be collected by a specialist disposal company who will take the dirty water off farm and dispose of it safely.

The drainage system implemented will ensure that the foul water and clean water are kept separate and therefore no clean water will be contaminated.

7. 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.

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.