

Non-Technical Summary of Proposed Changes

This variation application is for the addition of a new poultry rearing shed (House 4), at the Rear Glenrath unit of Glenrath Poultry Farm. House 4 will hold 32 000 pullets on a litter rearing system. In addition, an existing shed (House 2) will be refurbished. House 2 will keep the same footprint, but will be upgraded to hold an additional 6 000 bird places.

The variation comprises a substantial variation as the site boundary requires to be changed to include the land on which the new rearing shed will stand. The total site capacity will increase from 140 000 bird places to 178 000 bird places for pullet rearing.

The Farm

Day old to point of lay pullets are reared at Glenrath Farm poultry units at Rear Roadend Farm, Hallmanor and at Glenrath Farm, Manor Valley, Peeblesshire. The site contains two poultry units' located approximately 400 metres apart. Rear Roadend unit is located at Ordnance Survey grid reference NT 2065 3427 and the unit at Glenrath Farm is located at NT 2092 3385.

Rear Roadend comprises five sheds (6 to 10) for rearing pullets and Glenrath Farm comprises three sheds for rearing pullets(1 to 3). NB: The location of Shed 4 is almost on the same area where previous Sheds 4 and 5 were situated.

The site is currently permitted by PPC/A/1133062 for 140 000 bird places for pullet rearing.

Pullet Litter

Rearing The new poultry shed (House 4) will house pullets on a litter rearing system. This process is outlined below.

Day old chicks are introduced into the poultry house and reared to point of lay pullets at about 16 - 18 weeks of age when they are transferred to laying farms. On average there are 2.5 crops per annum. This means that for approximately 12 weeks of the year the poultry house will be empty.

It is planned that the shed will be designed to achieve the RSPCA laying pullets standards.

Litter

At the start of the cycle wood shavings are spread on the floor to a depth of around 2 cm and the sheds are pre-warmed to 33 - 34°C, at day one, with temperatures being gradually reduced to 20 - 22°C by days 28 - 35. As birds grow and the temperature is gradually reduced, ventilation requirements also increase.

Once all the birds have been transferred to laying farms, the litter will be removed in covered trailers for land spreading in accordance with the PEPFAA Code of Good Practice. Litter is estimated at approximately 120 tonnes per flock cycle.

Feed

Feed from a UFAS accredited mill is delivered and stored on-site in sealed bins. House 4 will have its own feed bin, located as shown on the attached drawing. Three diets are fed over the rearing cycle, chick starter which is fed until the chicks reach around 170g body weight, a second starter diet is then fed until the birds reach at least 620g body weight, then a grower diet is fed until the birds are transferred to a laying site at 16 weeks of age. Birds weigh approximately 1,352 grams at 16 weeks of age. 3

Water

Water is supplied to the site via the spring water supply. Nipple drinkers will be used to water pullets. These reduce wastage of water and maintain dry litter. Water consumption is monitored and recorded daily.

Wash Down Water Once the pullets have been transferred to the laying farms and the litter cleared from the building, House 4 will be washed down and disinfected ready for the next crop. Disinfectant is sprayed directly onto contact surfaces. Wash down water will be directed to a sealed wash down water collection tank located at the front of the house, On completion the wash down water will be spread to land via a tanker in accordance with the PEPFAA Code of Good Practise. Wash down water is estimated at approximately 2,000 litres per cycle.

Heating & Electricity

House 4 will make use of the heating and electrical provisions already onsite. The site is powered by means of mains electricity, and heating is provided in the form of LPG. One small diesel generator is used for back-up electricity in the event of a power failure. The location of the generator is shown on the attached drawing in Appendix 1_Plans; Site Plan 2_Rear Glenrath Farm Block Plan.

On Farm Casualties

Mortalities will be removed from the poultry house daily and the numbers recorded. Mortalities are collected from the site under the Fallen Stock Scheme.

Building

House 4 will comprise steel frame construction with insulated aluminium (Kingspan) wall, roof panels and sealed concrete floors.

Ventilation / Emission to Air House 4 will be fitted with a ventilation system drawing air into the house via roof fans and side or gable inlets. Exhaust air will be expelled via fans in the gable end of the house. This ventilation system meets the requirements of BAT.

Maximum and minimum temperatures and relative humidity are monitored and recorded daily and adjustments made as necessary to ensure that birds are in the optimum environment for their age and weight. Target levels for relative humidity are 50% - 70%. Based on SEPA SPRI Ammonia Emission Factors for pullets (0.06 kg NH₃ per animal place per year), it is predicted that House 4 will contribute 1,920 kg ammonia emissions annually. House 2 will contribute an additional 360 kg ammonia emissions annually.

Emissions to Water

Roof and surface water from House 4 will be directed to and treated via the existing SUDS system in place. The existing SUDS is a pond with an outfall to a tributary of the Manor Water. The SUDS pond has been resized and redesigned in accordance with CREW. The outfall from the pond will be directed to a field drain at NT 21116 34187, which discharges to the Manor Water at NT 21043 34355.