



COGEO

planning and environmental expertise

1. NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

Howden Eggs Ltd.

Applicant: Howden Eggs Ltd.

Version 1.0

EXPERTISE | KNOWLEDGE | SUPPORT

NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

Submitted on behalf of Howden Eggs Ltd., this application is for a Part A PPC Permit covering the existing and proposed free-range hen shed operations on land at Howden Farm, Gifford, EH41 4JS. As the cumulative capacity onsite exceeds the 40,000 threshold, this application is submitted to SEPA under Schedule 1 section 6.9 Part A of the Pollution Prevention and Control (Scotland) Regulations 2012, which covers the rearing of poultry.

As is detailed throughout the documents attached to this permit application, the installation meets the conditions set out within the Standard Farming Installation Rules (SFIR)¹ and has been designed in accordance with the Best Available Techniques Reference Document².

There is currently an operational hen shed on the site, with the capacity for 32,000 free-range hens, was consented in 2015. The Operator is now looking to expand their free-range egg business with an additional 32,000 capacity hen shed proposed adjacent to the existing unit³. As such, this application is for both the existing and proposed hen sheds, to accommodate a total of 64,000 free-range hens.

Following the initial SCAIL (the Simple Calculation of Ammonia Limits) assessment undertaken (details of output data in document 7), it was concluded that an Air Quality Impact Assessment (AQIA) would be required as the screening failed for all sensitive sites due to the process contribution for both nitrogen deposition and ammonia concentration exceeding 4% of the critical load and critical level, respectively. The AQIA completed for review is attached at Appendix 1 of this application. This assessment has also been submitted alongside the planning application to East Lothian Council for the additional hen shed unit proposed. Also detailed within the AQIA is the assessment of odour emissions from the site, which concludes that there will be no significant odour impacts resulting from the permitted activities at the installation. In line with the SFIR guidance, an odour management plan has been drafted for review of SEPA and details the mitigation measures to be implemented to limit the odour emissions from the day-to-day operations of the poultry sheds.

The closest residential receptor to the site is located approximately 372m northeast. Given the location of several residential receptors surrounding the site a noise impact assessment has been completed (detailed in document 10 attached) which concludes that noise impact as a result of the cumulative impacts from the existing and proposed operations will be negligible.

A Drainage Strategy has been completed in line with the planning submission and confirms the use of a swale and filter strip with a further wetland in line with CREW Guidance and CIRIA C753 manual. Full details of the proposed foul water and surface water treatment from the site is attached as Appendix 2 of this application.

This permit application comprises of a series of documents and associated appendices detailing how this installation meets the conditions specified within the SFIR guidance and subsequent BAT regulations for the requirements of the PPC permit.

¹ SEPA, Standard Farming Installation Rules (How to Comply) <https://www.sepa.org.uk/media/162852/sepa-s-standard-farming-installation-rules-how-to-comply-incorporating-ppc-application-guidance.pdf>

² Best Available Techniques (BREF) <https://eippcb.jrc.ec.europa.eu/reference/>

³ Planning Permission issued by East Lothian Council on 07/04/2023, Reference 22/00952/P