



Noise Management Plan

DEVELOPMENT: **EPR/AB3095HL**

LOCATION: **Rhosddu Farm
Llansantffraid Ym Mochnant
Welshpool
Powys
SY22 6TH**

CLIENT: **Mr Martyn Langford**

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INTRODUCTION

This Noise Management Plan (NMP) details the methods by which the site operator, Mr Martyn Langford will systematically assess, reduce and prevent noise emissions from the proposed poultry facility in accordance with the Environmental Permitting Regulations.

This NMP will:

- identify and employ 'all appropriate measures' to minimise the generation and noise and subsequent exposure / impact;
- limit exposure of people outside the site to levels of noise which would result in complaints; and
- minimise the risk of unplanned 'noisy' events which have the potential to result in off site noise complaints

There are sensitive receptors within 400m of the proposed site and a Noise Assessment has been carried out as part of the Environment Impact Assessment process.

Name	Easting	Northing	Distance from unit to residential curtilage (m)	Orientation of receptor from installation	Description
Prenrhwnin	320640	316861	357	South	Residential
Prenafal	320634	316804	683	South	Residential
Plas Bach Issa	320324	316665	490	South West	Residential
New Buildings Farm	320740	317577	388	North East	Residential
The Hollies	320714	317630	421	North East	Residential
Penllyn	320902	316954	499	South East	Residential

Hazard	Receptor	Pathway	Risk Management	Exposure	Consequence	Overall Risk
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<p>Noise issues from large vehicles travelling to and from farm</p> <p>Mobile source</p>	<p>Neighbouring dwelling houses within 400m of installation</p>	<p>Air</p>	<p>Measures as described in SGN EPR6.09 (Farming) Noise Management at Intensive Livestock Installation. All vehicles are required to be driven onto and offsite with due consideration for neighbours. Timed delivery restrictions can be implemented (07.00 and 20.00hrs) to minimise disturbance. Bird catching frequently occurring during night time (reduced bird stress). All vehicles regularly maintained to minimise engine noise. Roadways are free from potholes and maintained in good order. Route selection made with due consideration to nearby neighbours.</p>	<p>Unlikely</p>	<p>Noise annoyance</p>	<p>Not significant if managed carefully.</p>
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Large vehicles delivering/collecting from site, litter removal, removal of dirty water	Neighbouring dwelling houses within 400m of installation	Air	Measures as described in SGN EPR6.09. Vehicles well maintained and driven slowly on site. Engines not left idling. Audible reversing warnings mostly during daylight hours, excepting during night catching. Dirty water and litter removal during daylight hours.	Unlikely	Noise annoyance	Not significant
Small vehicle movements Mobile Source	Neighbouring dwelling houses within 400m of installation	Air	Measures as described in SGN EPR6.09 Vehicles driven slowly on site for night catching. Low risk for other small vehicle movements during daylight hours.	Unlikely	Noise annoyance	Not significant
Feed transfer from lorry to bins Fixed source	Neighbouring dwelling houses within 400m of installation	Air	Vehicles well maintained and designed to minimise noise during transfer	Unlikely	Noise annoyance	Not significant
Ventilation Fans Fixed Source	Neighbouring dwelling houses within 400m of installation	Air	Efficient extraction fans matched to size and population within house. Regularly maintained	Unlikely	Noise annoyance	Not significant
Alarm system/standby generator Fixed Source	Neighbouring dwelling houses within 400m of installation	Air	System tested weekly (Mondays mid-morning to reduce disturbance) Specialist maintenance contract in operation. Frequent electrical servicing	Unlikely	Noise annoyance	Not significant
Chickens Mobile Source	Neighbouring dwelling houses within 400m of installation	Air	Low risk Noise during catching minimised by careful bird handling by trained catchers. Prompt departure of loaded lorries	Unlikely	Noise annoyance	Not significant
Personnel Mobile Source	Neighbouring dwelling houses	Air	Staff and contractors required to carry out their respective duties without creating excessive	Unlikely	Noise annoyance	Not significant

	within 400m of installation		noise			
Repairs and Servicing	Neighbouring dwelling houses within 400m of installation	Air	Repairs required are carried out with due regard for possible noise nuisance and unless exceptional are carried out during normal working hours along with routine servicing	Unlikely	Noise annoyance	Not significant

The greatest noise impacts occur at Prenrhwnin, the residential property to the south of the poultry farm. Furthermore, the impacts relate largely to the gable end and plate fans which are located in the western elevation of the poultry sheds. Given this the following mitigation measures are recommended:

- Night-time ventilation should be provided by the ridge roof fans only. This would remove the need to engage the plate fans during the night-time period.

This NMP will be reviewed annually.

NMP Framework

Potential sources of noise have been identified in the NMP.

NMP Status

This NMP is a controlled document, and forms part of the site Management System.

The specification for the periodic review and update of the NMP will be set out within the site Management System and will be on an annual basis, as a minimum.

However, the NMP is intended to be a live document which serves as a reference during daily operations, and as such would be updated on a more frequent basis should the following occur:

- significant changes are made to the plant or operational practices;
- the NRW requests that the NMP is updated, in their role as regulator; or
- complaints are received, which on subsequent investigation result in the identification of further control measures or remedial action, in addition to those set out within this NMP.

The measures within this NMP refer to the H1 risk assessment.

Key Issues: Noise from Rhosddu Farm Poultry Development

The potential sources of noise in this NMP are:

- Ventilation Fans;
- Fuel and Feed Deliveries;
- Feeding Systems;
- Alarm Systems;
- Bird Catching;
- Clean Out Operations;
- Maintenance and Repairs;
- Set up and Placement; and
- Standby Generator Testing.

Noise Sources Assessed

In accordance with Table 2.9.2 of Horizontal Guidance for Noise Part 2 - Noise Assessment and Control (2004) the noise sources identified in this NMP, are detailed in Table 3-2. The nature of each noise is described and the contribution to the overall noise emission is presented.

Noise Risk Management Plan

Table 3-3 details the processes and checks which can be carried out to minimise noise emission from operations.

The three highest source contributors to the specific noise level are:

- the roof ridge fans and the gable end fans;
- bird noise emanating from each shed and the ranging area; and
- the intermittent HGV movements.

Management of noise from these sources is key to this NMP, and techniques to minimise noise from these three components are discussed further.

Ventilation

The noise minimisation techniques presented in Table 3-3 can be implemented at Rhosddu Farm.

The ventilation system fans will be inspected every crop turnaround, damaged fans will be with-drawn from use and noted for repair by an engineer. Broken or damaged machinery can generate excess noise resulting in greater stress for the birds as well as increased noises emissions. A full maintenance inspection will be undertaken by qualified engineers annually on the ventilation system.

The fans however are very quiet running, with the majority of the noise produced from the air movement being akin to a light breeze.

If a complaint of noise from the ventilation fans is received in the first instance the fans must be inspected to identify if maintenance is required.

After this inspection careful consideration of the on-time of the fan/s closest, or in line of sight, to the sensitive receptor must be made. It may be possible to reduce the fan on-time, and offset this decrease by an increase in the on-time of the fan/s furthest, or out of site, from the sensitive receptor. Noise levels may subsequently be mitigated.

A further option that may be considered to mitigate site noise is to prevent a line of site between the identified noise source/s by including acoustic barriers if required.

The following are examples of good acoustic barriers:

- buildings on site;
- earth banks;
- heavy and solid close boarded wooden fencing, masonry walls;
- straw bales can provide good temporary noise barriers provided there is no fire risk.

All four options listed above may be considered at Rhosddu Farm. As a temporary measure straw bales may be considered in the first instance, and if an improvement is noted, consideration should be given to a more permanent feature.

Free Range Hens

The hens are housed in three sheds.

If noise does lead to complaints management techniques may be introduced to quieten the birds; such measures may include:

- increasing the temperature as hens are noisy when cold;
- reducing draughts as draughts may cause hens to cluster and elevate noise in a localised area; and

HGV Movements

Whilst HGV movements will be infrequent, when they do occur, management of noise is required as they are a high contributor to the specific noise level.

If HGV noise does lead to complaints management techniques may be introduced to reduce the impact; such measures may include:

- instructing drivers to use low revs and drive at low speed;
- instructing drivers to turn engines off when stationary;
- maintaining the access road in good repair to avoid rattles and/or body slap; and
- restricting HGV arrival and departures to times when background noise levels are typically higher.

NOISE SURVEILLANCE

The purpose of noise surveillance is to demonstrate to the NRW that the permitted development is being operated in such a manner as to minimise the noise impact at nearby noise-sensitive receptors. In the event that complaints are received noise monitoring would prompt remedial actions to ensure ongoing future compliance.

In the first instance a responsible person shall undertake fortnightly noise patrols at the nearby noise-sensitive receptors. Audibility or otherwise of the site should be logged in a register.

The main potential sensitive receptors in relation to noise are residential dwellings.

COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

If a complaint is received from a local resident, an investigation shall be instigated within one working day to identify the cause of the non-compliance/complaint and the Noise Complaint Form, detailed in schedule 6, will be filled in and appropriate action will be taken to remedy the problem should the complaint be validated.

A complaint investigation may involve the identification and cessation of the activity or activities considered to be the cause of the non-compliance/complaint and/or the investigation of mitigation measures to reduce the noise emission levels from the

activity or activities, for example the replacement of noisy plant with quieter alternatives and/or the use of temporary screening mounds.

Any deviation from agreed working practices shall be identified immediately and conformance to the working practice reinstated.

If it is not possible to identify the source of the complaint it may be necessary to undertake a noise survey. If this is needed a suitably qualified person should be employed to undertake the required survey work. The date and results of the noise survey should be logged and reported in accordance with the relevant British Standard.

NOISE COMPLAINT FORM

RHOSDDU FARM POULTRY UNIT		DATE RECORDED:	REFERENCE NO:
Name and Address of Caller			
Telephone			
Location of caller in relation to installation			
Time and date of complaint			
Date, time and duration of offending noise			
Has the caller any other comments on noise?			
Callers description of noise			
Weather conditions			
Wind strength and direction			
Any previous complaints relating to noise?			
Any other relevant information			
Potential odour sources that could give rise to the complaint			
Operating conditions at the time of the offending noise			
Follow up – date and time caller contacted			
Action taken			
Amendment required to Noise Management Plan			
Form completed by:		Signed and date:	