

Natural Resources Wales permitting decisions

Stud Poultry Farm
Topmoor Poultry Ltd

and

Stud Farm Biomass Boiler
Stud Farm (Powys) Limited

Decision document

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Partial Transfer

We have decided to grant the partial transfer for Stud Poultry Farm from Stud Farm (Poultry) Limited to Topmoor Poultry Limited.

Permit number EPR/KP3536MM will continue to be operated by Stud Farm (Powys) Limited. This permit will now be a “directly associated activity” (DAA) permit allowing the operation of the biomass boiler.

Permit number EPR/CB3397CH will be issued to Topmoor Poultry Limited and permit the operation of a broiler facility previously operated by Stud Farm (Powys) Limited.

We consider in reaching that decision we have taken into account all relevant considerations and legal requirements and that the permit will ensure that the appropriate level of environmental protection is provided.

Receipt of Application

The Application was accepted as duly made on 03/12/2021. This means we considered it was in the correct form and contained sufficient information for us to begin our determination, but not that it necessarily contained all the information we would need to complete that determination.

Requests for Further Information

Further information was requested by the way of an informal request for further information requiring the applicant to provide a multi-operator site plan and a separate map containing the emission points and to confirm what emission points related to the biomass boilers. The request for further information was sent on 12/01/22 with a response from the applicant occurring on 16/01/2022. The additional information

supplied satisfied the requirements of the request for further information notice issued on 12/01/22.

A copy e-mails requesting further information were placed on our public register as were the responses when received.

Control of the facility

We are satisfied that Topmoor Poultry Limited will have control over the broiler part of the facility after the permit is granted. The decision was taken in accordance with EPR RGN 1 Understanding the meaning of operator.

The regulated facility

The permitted regulated facilities have changed as a result of the partial transfer.

The existing operator Stud Farm (Powys) Limited will retain and continue the Biomass boiler activities solely used to provide heat the broiler houses (outlined in red on the multi-operational site plan). The houses are heated by a biomass boiler that is fuelled on virgin wood which has a thermal rated input of 600kW. The existing permit will be changed to a Directly Associated Activities permit.

The new operator Topmoor Poultry Limited will now operate the activities associated with the rearing of up to 330,000 broiler chickens in the six broiler sheds located at Stud Poultry Farm (outlined in green on the multi-operational site plan).

Changes to permit conditions

The permit conditions have changed as a result of the partial transfer.

All intensive farming conditions have been transferred to Topmoor Poultry's new permit (EPR/CB3397CH). We have also updated the conditions in line with the current standard Intensive Farming Environmental Permit template.

To make Stud Farm (Powys) Limited's existing permit (EPR/KP3536MM) suitable for a directly associated activity permit, the permit conditions have changed from those in our standard Intensive Farming Environmental Permit template to the ones from our generic Environmental Permit template.

Condition 1.5 Multiple operator installations, has been included to both of the permits produced by the partial transfer. This condition is stated below;

1.5.1 Where the operator notifies Natural Resources Wales under condition 4.3.1 (a) or 4.3.1 (c), the operator shall also notify without delay the other operator of the installation of the same information.

Condition 2.2 and the associated Site Plan on the permit have also been updated in line with the installation now being a multi-operator installation.

Environmental Management System

There is no known reason to consider that the new operator (Topmoor Poultry Ltd) will not have the management systems to enable it to comply with the permit conditions. The decision was taken in accordance with RGN 5 on Operator Competence. The Operator has their own Environmental Management System and ensures that the site is operated in accordance with its permit conditions.

Relevant convictions

The National Enforcement Database (COLINS) has been checked to ensure that all relevant convictions have been declared. No relevant convictions were found. The operator satisfies the criteria in RGN 5 on Operator Competence.

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