

Natural Resources Wales permitting decisions

Norton Poultry Site
Topmoor Poultry Ltd

and

Norton Farm Biomass Boiler
Warren Farm (Powys) Ltd

Decision document

Contents

Partial Transfer.....	3
Receipt of Application	3
Requests for Further Information	3
Control of the facility	4
The regulated facility.....	4
Changes to permit conditions	5
Environmental Management System	5
Relevant convictions.....	6

Partial Transfer

We have decided to grant the partial transfer for Norton Poultry Site from Warren Farm (Powys) Ltd to Topmoor Poultry Limited.

Permit number EPR/GP3736MM will continue to be operated by Warren Farm (Powys) Ltd. This permit will now be a “directly associated activity” (DAA) permit allowing the operation of the biomass boiler.

Permit number EPR/CB3397FZ will now be operated by Topmoor Poultry Limited. This permit will allow the operation of a broiler facility.

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, 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 22/01/2022. The additional information

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

A copy of the information notice and 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 the applicant (now the new operator) is the person who will have control over part of the facility after the grant of the permit. 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 Warren Farm (Powys) Ltd will retain and continue the Biomass boiler activities solely used to provide heat the broiler houses (outlined in green on the multi-operational site plan). The houses are heated by three biomass boilers that are fuelled on virgin wood which have a thermal rated input of 600kW. The existing permit will be changed to a Directly Associated Activities permit, as the permitted activities contribute heating of the broiler houses used to rear broilers.

The new operator Topmoor Poultry Limited will now operate the activities associated with the rearing of up to 165,000 broiler chickens in the five broiler sheds located at Norton Poultry Site (outlined in red 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/CB3397FZ). We have also updated the conditions in line with the current standard Intensive Farming Environmental Permit template.

To make Warren Farm (Powys) Ltd's existing permit (EPR/ GP3736MM) 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.

Additionally, 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(s) 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.