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D & J Whistance
Meadowbank Poultry Farm
Nant y Derry
Abergavenny
Monmouthshire
NP15 1PX

Our Reference: YP3637MJ
Your Reference:
September 18, 2013

Dear Mr. Whistance

**RE: Inspection against IPPC permit YP3637MJ St. Pierre Poultry Farm.
POLLUTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL (ENGLAND & WALES)
REGULATIONS 2000.**

Thank you for your time and cooperation during my inspections of Meadowbank poultry farm on 14th June 2013 and August 28th 2013.

14th June 2013: Breach of Permit - Condition 1.1.1a). – The activities shall be managed and operated: In accordance with a management system which identifies and minimises risks of pollution, including those arising from operations.

During my inspection on 14th June 2013, in response to a reported pollution incident (No. 1117014) I observed that the water in the settlement lagoon at the southern boundary of the site was significantly contaminated. The water was very dark in colour and had a foul odour. The lagoon is specified as a point source emission for the collection of clean water from the roofs of the poultry houses and the yard and which can be discharged to land outside the permitted site.

During the inspection samples of water entering the lagoon and water entering the site upstream of the poultry houses were taken and subsequent results indicated that the water entering the lagoon had significantly raised ammonia levels and Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD) compared with the water upstream of the poultry houses. The levels measured in the water entering the lagoon would mean that pollution would be caused if it was discharged to land or a watercourse.

In line with the compliance classification system this category 3 breach will attract a score of 4 points. I enclose the guidance on the scoring of breaches and the associated potential to increase

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subsistence fees. In practice on this occasion this score does not result in a change in the subsistence fees payable, however additional scores in the future may accumulate and adversely affect the subsistence fees due.

It is important in relation to this breach that as a matter of urgency you look carefully at your management system and operations and modify both in such a way that the water reaching the settlement lagoon is of a suitable quality to discharge onto land without the risk of causing pollution. In respect of this, you need to send me details of proposed modifications to the site drainage along with an amended drainage plan, accident management and maintenance plan (With timescales) which will modify the separation of clean and dirty water and allow only lightly contaminated water to enter the lagoon. I need to receive details of the modifications you propose by 18th October 2013.

I would want to visit the site at a convenient date when the modifications are complete to assess their effectiveness and will contact you when you have notified me that the proposed works are complete.

28th August 2013 : Permit - Condition 1.1.1a). – The activities shall be managed and operated: In accordance with a management system which identifies and minimises risks of pollution, including those arising from operations.

In relation to the breach of permit condition 1.1.1a observed during my inspection on 28th June 2013 I observed the modifications to the drainage system you have made since that date which can be summarised as follows:

On the day of the 14th June inspection the water from the roofs of the poultry houses was delivered from roof gutters via down pipes into an open half round gully, this gully then transported the water to the settlement lagoon. The side vents of the poultry house fans were located above this gully, allowing dust from the houses to mix with the roof water and subsequently be carried to the settlement lagoon. Wash down of the houses was taking place during the inspection and wash down water from the houses was able to run to the lagoon.

On the day of the 28th August inspection, the roof water was being collected in an enclosed 100mm plastic pipe situated in the previously open gullies. This arrangement should prevent dust from the side vents travelling to the settlement lagoon.

A concrete bund had been installed to divert wash water which could previously reach the settlement lagoon into dirty water tanks.

You also proposed raising the level of the outlet pipe from the settlement lagoon.

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Hopefully these modifications will contribute to a significant improvement in the quality of water entering the lagoon.

In light of the recent incident you now need to update your accident management plan, drainage plan and maintenance plan to reflect the changes to the site operations. Please forward the amended documents to me by October 18th 2013.

I will need to revisit the site after 18th October 2013 to assess the impact of the modified drainage system. I will contact you in due course to arrange a convenient time for this inspection.

I am pleased to say that on August 28th all other aspects of the site were compliant with the permit

If you have any queries regarding the inspection or the issues raised in this letter please feel free to contact me

Christopher Gardener

Swyddog yr Amgylchedd/Environment Officer

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