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24/1/2024 13:41

Proposed replacement milking parlour at Knolton Farm, Overton, Wrexham (P/2023/0877)

To jenni.perkins@wrexham.gov.uk Copy Tom Booth <tomas_booth@hotmail.co.uk> •
Rob Latham boblatham@hotmail.co.uk <boblatham@hotmail.co.uk>

Dear Mrs Perkins

I am the agent for this planning application and I understand that you are the case officer.

In their letter of 11th January 2024 Natural Resources Wales ask for clarification on matters relating to groundwater and any activities which could result in contamination.

When I submitted the application on 26th October 2023 I included a drainage plan which would have answered some of the questions but for some reason it did not find its way onto the application file. I have attached a copy which may prove helpful.

To answer the specific questions;

1) The wash water will be collected and stored in the new 37,000 litre water storage sited behind the new parlour in the position shown on the drawing. At milking times the water will be piped into a smaller flushing tank inside the parlour which at the end of milking will empty down the sloping floor of the parlour and into a protected 6 / 8 feet deep sump. As the sump fills the slurry will be pumped in new sealed piping under the road and into the existing farm slurry store. The system will comply with the Water Resources (Control of Agricultural Pollution)(Wales) Regulations 2021.

2) The parlour will have an impermeable base and walls and all areas in contact with wash water will be contained and have impermeable drainage. All pipes and channels will be impermeable and meet the the anti corrosion standards set out in BS 5502-50:1983+A2:2010 and will last at least 20 years with maintenance.

3) The existing parlour and drainage channels are constructed from concrete and blockwork which will be washed down, broken up and (if acceptable) will be used in the concrete base of the new parlour. Any pipework will be sold to a licensed scrap dealer or recycled in the normal way.

4) The development is intended to improve the welfare of the livestock and there are no plans to increase the number of cattle and there is no capacity to do so. The development will not increase the volume of foul discharge at the site and it is not likely to have a significant effect on the SAC.

5) The new parlour has been designed by a specialist company to meet the relevant regulations and will be built to BS5502.

6) The applicant supplies all the major supermarkets who demand the very highest welfare and hygiene standards. He routinely passes their audits and strives to exceed all legislative controls governing the industry. All slurry / manure is managed in accordance with the 2021 Regulations and has never caused pollution.

7) It is in the applicant's interest to ensure that groundwater is not contaminated

8) All the conditions recommended by NRW can be attached to the planning permission.

If you need any additional information please get back to me.

Yours sincerely

R Bennett

PS Details of the slurry pump and the flushing tank/valves are attached together with the drainage drawing.