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SRB/KH/6735/L3

Ms Janet Sutherberry
Senior Planning Officer
Wrexham County Borough Council
16 Lord Street
Wrexham
LL11 1LG

10 July 2014

Dear Ms Sutherberry

TOMLINSONS DAIRY – BLOW MOULDING BUILDING – P/2014/0410

We refer to the reported comments of Public Protection regarding the submitted noise report that were set out in your e-mail to Haston Reynolds dated 4 July 2014. Taking the points in turn we respond as follows:

- BS 5228 has been used only to calculate the noise level at a receptor from the noise level of an item of plant and the propagation losses due to distance, barrier effects and ground absorption. It is perfectly appropriate to apply the standard in this context. The calculation method is broadly consistent with other methods and established theory. There is no intrinsic difference between, say, a compressor on a dairy site and a compressor on a construction site in terms of noise propagation.
- Standard building acoustics calculations such as when assessing the breakout of noise in a building to the outside are based on an average noise level inside the building such as would be determined by averaging the noise levels measured at a number of positions distributed throughout the space. It is reasonable to assume that this average noise level within the building will not exceed 85 dB(A) since, were it to do so, everyone in the building would be at risk of having their workplace noise exposure exceed the upper exposure action value stated in The Control of Noise at Work Regulations 2005.
- The distance of 2 metres was assumed as this was the distance quoted for the noise measurements of the CL45 Cyclone Filter and the Tri BM 50-30 Granulator by AS MECH Systems. It is understood through conversation with Stephen Landen at Tomlinsons that we are unlikely to get any more data than we already have, so assumptions have to be made. AIRO considers the assumption to be reasonable and errs on the side of caution compared with for example assuming the measurement data relate to 1 metre from the plant, as is more often the case.

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- With regard to the assumptions that the service bridge will be completely enclosed and that the silo filling pipes will be lagged, Wrexham CBC could place a Condition on the development that these measures will be implemented to ensure such assumptions are delivered in practice.
- The background noise levels used were those measured prior to any Dairy operations being at that site as it was assumed that Wrexham CBC would prefer this. AIRO could look at it again using noise levels measured at The Chase from our measurements of 14 and 15 August 2013 although obviously these measurements would include additional noise from the existing Dairy operations given that the dairy is now part of the background noise environment and operates continuously. No measurements were made at Kalver during this visit. It is shown in AIRO's assessment that there will only be exceedences of the 5 dB over background noise level condition when the silo's are being filled. It is understood that these will only be filled during the daytime period and therefore an assessment against the lowest background noise level during the night-time period (as suggested by Wrexham CBC) is not appropriate for the silos.

With regard to the last paragraph, AIRO considers that the assessment has quantified the noise levels at the nearest noise sensitive residential properties and compared them with the background noise level in accordance with BS 4142. We consider that there is sufficient information provided for Wrexham CBC to assess the environmental noise effects of the proposals.

We trust this provides the information required but please make contact if we can be of further assistance.

Yours sincerely

S R Baxter

Stephen Baxter