

Ribble Valley Borough Council
Development Control
Council Offices Church Walk
Clitheroe
Lancashire
BB7 2RA

Our ref: NO/2012/103817/02-L01
Your ref: 3/2012/0166
Date: 20 June 2012

Dear Sir/Madam

**PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF EARTH BANK SLURRY STORE
SMALLEY FOLD FARM, COMMONS LANE, BALDERSTONE, LANCASHIRE**

I refer to the above and our previous response dated 15 June 2012.

We have subsequently discussed the proposals with the applicant's agent. The permeability tests will determine whether or not the ground conditions are appropriate in the location of the proposed slurry lagoon. However, in a worst case scenario, if the ground conditions were not suitable this could be resolved through the importation of appropriate material or the provision of an impermeable liner within the lagoon. While this is more costly, we understand that the applicant is prepared to do this if necessary to enable the slurry store to be constructed in the proposed location.

Given the above, **we withdraw our objection** to the proposed development subject to the inclusion of the following condition on any subsequent approval:-

CONDITION Prior to the commencement of development, permeability testing of the ground within the footprint of the proposed lagoon shall be undertaken and the results submitted to the council. Where the in situ soils are not shown to be suitable for the proposed development, full details of a scheme for lining the lagoon with an impermeable barrier shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The development shall proceed in accordance with the approved scheme

REASON To ensure the proposed development does not pose a risk of pollution to surface and ground waters

The slurry store (in conjunction with any other slurry storage on the farm) should accommodate the maximum quantity of slurry likely to be produced and directed to this system in any continuous four-month period. The calculations submitted as part

of the application state that the proposed lagoon will afford eight months storage capacity, which would clearly satisfy the regulations.

Further guidance on the construction of earth bank slurry stores and tanks is available to download from our website via the following link http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/static/documents/Business/SSAFO_Factsheet_5.pdf

The proposed development must fully comply with the terms of The Water Resources (Control of Pollution) (Silage, Slurry and Agricultural Fuel Oil) (England) Regulations 2010 and The Code of Good Agricultural Practice (COGAP) for the protection of water, soil and air (produced by DEFRA).

The Environment Agency must be informed of a new, reconstructed or enlarged slurry store, silage clamp or fuel stores at least 14 days before the structure is brought into use. Further guidance is available on our website and the applicant will need to complete WQE3: New or improved agricultural structures form which can be obtained from the Environment Agency.

Only clean surface water from roofs and paved areas should be discharged to any surface water soakaway.

A copy of this letter has been sent to the applicant/agent.

Yours faithfully

Philip Carter
Planning Liaison Officer

Direct dial 01772 714219

Direct fax 01772 697032

Direct e-mail nwnorthplanning@environment-agency.gov.uk

cc Gary Hoerty Associates