

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

Our ref: NO/2022/114902/01-L01
Your ref: 3/2022/1028
Date: 22 November 2022

Dear Sir/Madam

PROPOSED AGRICULTURAL BUILDING TO PROVIDE A COVERED YARD AREA AND TO COVER PROPOSED BELOW GROUND STORAGE FOR SURFACE WATER, WASH WATER AND DILUTED LIQUID MANURE FROM AGRICULTURAL BUILDINGS. PROPOSED CONCRETING OF PARTS OF ANCILLARY YARD AREA. NEW ELMRIDGE FARM, GIB HEY LANE, CHIPPING, PR3 2WU

Thank you for consulting us on the above application which we received 11 November 2022.

Environment Agency position

We have no objection to the development as proposed and have the following advice for the applicant.

Pollution Control – Advice to applicant

The proposed development must fully comply with the terms of The Water Resources (Control of Pollution) (Silage, Slurry and Agricultural Fuel Oil) (England) (SSAFO) Regulations 2010 and as amended 2013. Environmental good practice advice is available in The Code of Good Agricultural Practice (COGAP) for the protection of water, soil and air (produced by DEFRA).

The applicant is advised to review the existing on-farm slurry and manure storage and ensure compliance with the SSAFO Regulations. You must inform the Environment Agency of a new, reconstructed or enlarged slurry store, silage clamp or fuel store at least 14 days before starting any construction work. The notification must include the type of structure, the proposed design and construction. Please note the Environment Agency must be informed of your proposals in addition to any application for planning permission.

Further guidance, including how to calculate capacity, is available at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/storing-silage-slurry-and-agricultural-fuel-oil> and CIRIA have detailed guides on site selection, design and construction <https://www.ciria.org/ItemDetail?iProductCode=C759F&Category=FREEPUBS&WebsiteKey=3f18c87a-d62b-4eca-8ef4-9b09309c1c91>

The application appears to be for a concrete lined tank structure beneath the existing yard, however we include the following advice should this not be the case.

Environment Agency
Lutra House Walton Summit, Bamber Bridge, Preston, PR5 8BX.
Customer services line: 03708 506 506
www.gov.uk/environment-agency

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Any proposals for earth-banked slurry lagoons will require an impermeable clay base to a minimum depth of one metre. To ensure compliance with SSAFO, applicants will need to provide us with details of percolation tests to demonstrate that the ground conditions at the base of the lagoon are appropriate. Where permeability tests show that the soil or underlying ground is not suitable, it will be necessary to use a synthetic material or import impermeable soils to act as a liner for the lagoon. If there were to be earth banked walls, they will also need sampling, as sufficient clay soils (not less than 20% and no more than 30% clay content) are required to make the banks stable. The lagoon should be sited sufficiently far away from any watercourses and land drains.

Upon completion of the work, the applicant must contact the Environment Agency Agriculture Team to arrange for the new slurry facility to be inspected before it is brought into use.

If you would like to discuss the proposed development in relation to compliance with the SSAFO regulation, please contact us.

Further guidance is available:

[Storing silage, slurry and agricultural fuel oil](#)
[Protecting our Water, Soil and Air: A Code of Good Agricultural Practice for farmers, growers and land managers](#)

Yours faithfully

Carole Woosey
Planning Advisor

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