

Consultation with EA.

John Metcalfe

From: John Stalker <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 02 December 2025 11:22
To: John Metcalfe; Hilary Deighton
Subject: Re: Proposed slurry lagoon - Woodhouse Gate Farm

Hi John,

Yes, John trial pits and soil samples for analysis of soil permeability are necessary, even where a liner is known to be needed. We have these points to raise to show you why....

- The choice of design of a liner/double liner/thickness of liner should be dependent on the local site conditions and groundwater vulnerability, and these decisions can only be made through knowing the soil's permeability.
- Trial pits are necessary to understand the depth and nature of material that will be beneath the liner, in some situations, i.e. free draining soils, limestone etc. a single liner wouldn't be suitable. Ciria 759 mentions this on page 57.
- In most cases an embankment/bund is constructed so we will need to see if the material can form a stable structure that will meet the British Standard. Soil sampling is still needed to confirm the clay content.

We have had an example recently that had a single liner placed on limestone, the liner was ruptured, and slurry quickly entered the nearby water course.

Please let me know if you need a copy of CIREA 759.

Kind Regards

John

John Stalker

SEO Agriculture

Cumbria & Lancashire Area

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: John Metcalfe <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, December 1, 2025 10:40

To: John Stalker <[REDACTED]>; Hilary Deighton <[REDACTED]>
[REDACTED]

Subject: FW: Proposed slurry lagoon - Woodhouse Gate Farm

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Hi John & Hilary

Could you confirm the position for the scenario below please?

Where we have a situation where we know a liner will be used do we need to do the ground investigations? It seems crazy having to spend a few hundred pounds for investigations and lab testing soils if they will be using a liner anyway.

I do understand that if they are not using a liner the soil sampling is critical.

I've two farmers who will both be using liners and don't want them to go to unnecessary expense if this is not required.

Many thanks

john

John Metcalfe

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e. [REDACTED]

w. www.ruralfutures.co.uk

From: John Metcalfe

Sent: 20 November 2025 10:44

To: Hilary Deighton <[REDACTED]>

Subject: RE: Proposed slurry lagoon - Woodhouse Gate Farm

Thanks Hilary

The farmer will definitely be using a liner (possibly 2 liners) anyway.

Where we have a situation where we know a liner will be used do we need to do the ground investigations? It seems crazy having to spend a few hundred pounds for investigations and lab testing soils if they will be using a liner anyway. I do understand that if they are not using a liner the soil sampling is critical.

I'll send future enquiries to the email you've provided.

Many thanks for your help.

Regards

john

John Metcalfe

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From: Hilary Deighton <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 20 November 2025 10:15
To: John Metcalfe <[REDACTED]>
Cc: Matthew Stagg <[REDACTED]>
Subject: RE: Proposed slurry lagoon - Woodhouse Gate Farm

Hi John,

Comments for the proposed site at Woodhouse Gate Farm from the Groundwater Team, below

The published mapping shows limestone/mudstone to occur at rockhead. The supplied NGR does have overlying superficial deposits occurring with till shown at surface. Some locations in the wider vicinity don't have any superficial deposits mapped. Such as the quarry to the NW.

The farm does have a licensed abstraction from a borehole

I suppose in principle the site can be used. They need to investigate the ground though and ensure adequate thickness of low permeability material. If the ground conditions are not consistent then they might be better considering a liner and the natural containment. A leak that reached bedrock could potentially impact the supply.

Please could you direct further e-mails to [REDACTED] so that they can be picked up by the Officer working in that catchment.

Kind regards

Hilary

Hilary Deighton
Agricultural Regulatory Inspection Officer
Environment Agency

[REDACTED]
Environment Incident Hotline (24 hours) | 0800 80 70 60
General Enquiries | 03708 506 506

Please note my normal working hours are [REDACTED]

Is your farm winter ready?

Planning	Storage	Drainage	Maintenance

For more information call 03708 506 506
or email enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk

From: John Metcalfe <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 18 November 2025 11:19
To: Hilary Deighton <[REDACTED]>
Subject: FW: Proposed slurry lagoon - Woodhouse Gate Farm

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Hi Hilary

Did you manage to get a response from the groundwater team regarding this proposal?

Regards

john

John Metcalfe
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From: John Metcalfe
Sent: 15 October 2025 10:48
To: Deighton, Hilary <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Proposed slurry lagoon - Woodhouse Gate Farm

Hello Hilary

We have a client who is hoping to construct a slurry lagoon at Woodhouse Gate Farm, Catlow Road, Slaidburn, BB7 3AQ

The lagoon will be lined and have a floating cover.

Could you please check with your groundwater team if this location is suitable before we carry out the trial holes and get the soil test samples.

Many thanks

john

John Metcalfe
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