FULL PLANNING APPLICATION FOR A SLURRY STORAGE TANK WITH A CANOPY (CONCRETE RING STORE) Planning Statement

# Curlew Fields Farm, Hessay York YO26 8JS Mr Roger Hildreth



# **Outline Description of the Application**

The proposed development is for:

A concrete slurry store complete with a canopy, replacing an existing earth banked store as a requirement of the Environment Agency to ensure clean air and prevention of pollution into watercourses.

# **Background & Reason for Application**

The applicant farms 200 acres of land (80 Ha). The farm has a dairy herd of130 cows, with 70 young stock. There is currently slurry storage facility on the farm which is not compliant with SSAFO regulations issued by the Environment Agency, in that there is insufficient storage capacity, and the advice from the EA is 4-6 months. The inclusion the canopy will further comply with legislation issued by the EA in terms of clean air

The UK has set stringent targets to cut emissions by 2020 and 2030. The goal is **to reduce the harm to human health from air pollution by half**. A robust evidence base, backed by the most up to date science is essential to help us achieve this.

# Scale

One slurry store and canopy is being applied for, which is partly submerged with a diameter of 32m and at a height of 4.8m above ground (tank) and an overall height of the canopy of 9.8m. It will sit on the northern edge of the farm stead in an established slurry collection point



# Amount

The area covered by the tank will be 807 sq m

# Landscaping & Appearance

The size and form of the tank and canopy is in keeping with its agricultural surroundings and is essential to comply with the Clean Air Act.

The diameter of the tank is 31.5m and the overall height including the canopy is 9.4m above ground

#### Access

Access will be gained via the existing yard which is used frequently by large agricultural vehicles. There is adequate room for turning and manovering vehicles, plus access for emergency services if they were ever needed.

# EA SUPPORT Stalker, John <john.stalker@environment-agency.gov.uk> to me

Dear Melanie.

A discussed farmers have a duty to comply with the Clean Air Strategy. One of the main things that they must start to do now is cover slurry stores by 2027 and it is advisory they utilise grants whilst they are available.

Below is the paragraph taken from the CAS taken from page 71.

# 7.4.2 We will regulate to reduce ammonia emissions from farming

a requirement for slurry and digestate stores to be covered by 2027. We will consider options for phasing in this requirement so that those producing or storing digestate or large volumes of slurry may be required to adopt the practice at an earlier date. I hope this assists. Regards

John

John Stalker | Senior Environment Officer (Agriculture) |,

# **Environmental Benefits**

Many environmental and practical benefits result from the use of covers on both new and some existing slurry stores. Odours from the store are significantly reduced and ammonia losses will also be reduced by 80% to 90%. Rainwater falling onto the store can be disposed of through a clean water system rather than being added to the store contents. This reduces the land area required for spreading, which further reduces the risks of causing water pollution and odour nuisance.

The saving in store size can be in the order of 15% to 25% depending on local rainfall and the volume of slurry to be stored. Covers can significantly reduce the environmental impact of both new and existing slurry stores. These factors are important in developing environmental assessments as part of an application for planning consent.

The provision of the slurry lagoon will have a major effect on the business. Firstly, from the significant reduction in use of artificial fertilisers by utilising their own organic fertiliser (Slurry).

Secondly reducing fuel usage but having the slurry storage at the site where it will be spread

# Flood risk

# Conclusion

The approval of this application will provide essential environmental protection facilities for this agricultural enterprise.