Housing Review for Grove Farm Pig Unit

Propose 4no. houses be permitted for rearing pigs intensively with total capacity for 4,000 places for production pigs >30kg. Present day 2no. existing houses have a total capacity for 2,000 places and propose to erect 2no more houses with capacity for additional 2,000 places. Houses will be naturally ventilated with side inlets for fresh air (no extraction fans). Inlets created with Galebreaker curtains which can be raised or lowered automatically to increase or decrease the volume of fresh air into the houses.

Conducted a review of the housing in accordance with the template in the Environment Agency; EPR 6.09 Sector Guidance Note; How to comply; Version 2; Housing Design and management; pp20-22 and Appendix 7 Undertaking a housing review; Version 3; February 2012:

Table 1 Summary of houses

Name of building	Function	Is building design BAT or not BAT?	Is building management BAT or not BAT?	Is it identified in Housing Improvement Plan?
Pig houses Nos.1-4	Production pigs >30kg	BAT	BAT	No

Table 2 Housing improvement plan

Area needing improvement	What needs to be done – possible solutions	Proposed cost	Proposed timescale for completion	Timescale agreed with the Environment Agency
Design changes	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a
Management changes	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a

Table 3 Housing design – the route to BAT

Condition	Best available techniques (BAT) used

Does the housing design conform to a BAT standard as set out in How to Comply?	• Package drinkers and troughs designed to prevent leakage (wastage).
	• Solid floor system comprises:
	  ○ Scraped areas that prevent ponding or build-up of urine
	  ○ Dung passages and bedded areas sloped to drain urine and prevent ponding.

Table 2 Housing management - the route to BAT

Condition	Best available techniques (BAT) used

1. Is slurry and manure managed to the standards in How to comply?	Solid floor systems – slurry/manure management and dunging behaviour
	
	• Dunging and lying areas are clearly differentiated to ensure that the lying areas are kept clean and dry.
	• Scraped areas are operated to prevent ponding or build-up of urine.
	• Dunging areas are cleaned out by scraping at least three times a week.
	• Bedded areas have sufficient straw to keep the lying area clean and dry, and to bind nitrogen to reduce ammonia emissions.
	• Floors are kept free from urine or slurry puddles, either through:
	  ○ the provision of additional bedding material to soak it up, or
	  ○ management to address puddles as they arise – scraping.

2. Is ventilation managed to the standards in How to comply?	• Draughts are avoided in lying areas. • Dunging areas in naturally ventilated buildings are sited beneath air inlets.
3. Is temperature managed to the standards in How to comply?	• The minimum temperature such that pigs do not need to huddle together will be maintained.
4. Does the general management conform to the standards in How to comply?	• Drinkers and troughs are operated to prevent leakage. • Floors and walls are kept clean and keeping the pigs clean keeps the walls clean. • Cracks and damaged areas of walls will be repaired.