

Ms Christie Burns
Copeland Borough Council
Development Control
The Copeland Centre Catherine Street
Whitehaven
Cumbria
CA28 7SJ

Our ref: NO/2024/116299/01-L01
Your ref: 4/24/2291/0F1
Date: 19 September 2024

Dear Ms Burns

ERECT CATTLE CUBICLE BUILDING EXTENSION.

TOWN HEAD FARM, NETHERTOWN

Thank you for consulting us on the above application, received 3 September 2024.

Environment Agency position

We have no objections to the proposed development, however we do wish to make the following comments:-

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.

The applicant should also ensure the proposed development supports compliance with:

- The Reduction and Prevention of Agricultural Diffuse Pollution (England) Regulations 2018 known as Farming Rules for Water (FRfW),
- The Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016 (EPR)
- The Nitrate Pollution Prevention Regulations 2015 (NVZ)

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). Any agricultural development that will result in an increase in cattle numbers or water usage may adversely impact the storage of waste waters, slurry and other polluting matter.

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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The applicant is advised to consider both the proposed development and existing on-farm slurry and manure storage to ensure compliance with the regulations (SSAFO, FRfW, EPR, NVZ).

As a condition of SSAFO, the applicant must notify the Environment Agency of a new, reconstructed or enlarged slurry store, silage clamp or fuel stores 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 their proposals in addition to any application for planning permission. 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 the applicant intends to apply for a grant under the Farming Investment Fund – Slurry Infrastructure grant the proposed development must also fully comply with the grant scheme rules, found at - [Slurry Infrastructure grant](#). In this case the SSAFO notification to the Environment Agency will be satisfied by the submission of the grant application form.

Further guidance:

[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 sincerely,

Miss Soraya Moghaddam
Planning Advisor

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