

Planning Department
Copeland Borough Council
The Copeland Centre
Catherine Street
Whitehaven
Cumbria
CA28 7SJ

**Dear Sirs** 

Request for Variation of Condition 3 of Planning Reference 4/20/2338/0F1 Formation of a slurry lagoon at Threapthwaite Farm, Bowthorn Road, Cleator Moor

Planning permission was granted on 23rd June 2021 for the above development which has consequently been commenced and planting is currently underway. The application was granted with the following condition:

3. Prior to the first use of the slurry lagoon hereby approved, an impermeable cover must be provided and utilised in accordance with details submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The cover must remain on the lagoon at all times thereafter.

The applicant has approached a number of different companies in order to get a cover system in place but this is proving to be technically difficult with no systems for mixing under the cover in place yet. The applicant's are looking at installing a separator and mixer under the cover with a system which is currently being designed specifically for this lagoon.

SUMMIT

The lagoon has been created to minimise spreading to spring summer and allow the storage of it through the winter. Without the lagoon in use, slurry will have to be spread monthly which reduces nutrient retention and means more fertiliser has to be brought into the farm.

The applicant's Farm Management Consultant has provided a supporting statement in regards to the amendment requested.

In order to enable the lagoon to be commissioned, we are requesting the following amendment:

3. Within 12 months of the slurry lagoon hereby approved being brought into operation, an impermeable cover must be provided and utilised in accordance with details submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The cover must remain on the lagoon at all times thereafter.

This will enable the environmental benefits of the lagoon in terms of lower use of fertilisers, and lower need to spread the slurry so often as opposed to monthly winter spreads which will benefit neighbouring properties. We will provide the details of the system as soon as they are available and will install such as early as possible so 12 months is the worst case scenario.

The landscaping is currently underway so the views of the lagoon are very limited.

Should any further information be required please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours faithfully

Rachel Lightfoot MRTPI