

Date: 17 March 2025
Our ref: 504172
Your ref: 24/00853/OUT



David Spring
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Consultations
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BY EMAIL ONLY

Dear David

Planning consultation: 24/00853/OUT SCAIL PROVIDED Extensions to three existing stock housing buildings and the erection of a new building for young stock.

Location: Castle Farm, Gopsall Road, Bil-stone, Shackerstone, Nuneaton, Leicestershire, CV13 6NQ

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated 25 February 2025 which was received by Natural England on 25 February 2025.

Natural England is a non-departmental public body. Our statutory purpose is to ensure that the natural environment is conserved, enhanced, and managed for the benefit of present and future generations, thereby contributing to sustainable development.

Insufficient information provided

There is insufficient information to enable Natural England to provide a substantive response to this consultation as required under the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015. Please provide the information listed below and re-consult Natural England. Please note that you are required to provide a further 21day consultation period, once this information is received by Natural England, for us to respond.

Natural England is not able to assess this case as there is insufficient information provided in relation to air quality impacts.

We refer you to our previous letter sent to you on 09 October 2024. This letter and annex set out in detail the air quality SCAIL screening assessment we required, how to populate the SCAIL model to undertake the assessment and how to save both data files to send to us.

We have not been sent both the Input and Output files we require. Please provide both these files as requested previously.

Below is the advice we previously provided in the Annex A explaining how to save these files to send to us.

Saving the Input file:

To save the Input file click on the red " Save Inputs" button at the bottom left of the screen and select 'save as' with an appropriate name and location and include with your application (.inp file

extension).

The input file can also be saved from the front screen by selecting "Save Input Data" using the same process.

Saving the Outputs:

Once the pre-populated results are visible, scroll down and click on the red 'Save Results' button and select 'save as' with an appropriate name and location. This file should also be included with the application.

Natural England has not considered any other matters at this stage. We will provide advice on all relevant matters upon receipt of this information.

Should the applicant wish to explore options for avoiding or mitigating effects on the natural environment with Natural England, we recommend that they use our [Discretionary Advice Service](#).

Defra have launched a Slurry Infrastructure Grant (SIG) which will allow pig, dairy and beef farmers producing slurry to access funding to contribute towards improving their slurry storage. This is a step by government to reduce nutrient pollution from agriculture. The infrastructure allowed under the grant will be subject to conditions and safeguards and underpinned by existing regulations. The degree of impact on the natural environment should be considered on a case-by-case basis, but in principle, Natural England support this scheme and expect that most projects will reduce nutrient pollution through better slurry management. You may want to confirm with the applicant if the proposal is subject to the SIG scheme. Defra have produced information [here](#) about the SIG scheme which may aid your decision-making on this application.

Please send further correspondence to consultations@naturalengland.org.uk quoting our reference 504172

Yours faithfully

Hannah Ezard Kay
Sustainable Development Higher Officer
East Midlands Area Team

Annex A

The link to the website can be found here: <http://www.scail.ceh.ac.uk/cgi-bin/agriculture/input.pl>

You will need all of the details of the proposals to hand in order to complete the SCAIL template.

Completing the template:

Complete '**Project Details**', '**Location Details**', '**Installation Details**'.

Most boxes are self-explanatory, but where further assistance is required, click on the  button.

'Installation Location' – provide the co-ordinates of the installation's location (12 figure grid reference using x,y coordinates or select landranger format to enter map reference, or the tool allows you to select a point from Google Maps, a map or aerial photograph). Click 'ok' to return to SCAIL tool.

'Source Details' - Complete all fields not greyed out depending upon the source type selected, including the grid reference if different to the main installation location already identified above. To complete '**Source Type**', select relevant description from 'housing, litter/manure storage, land-spreading, grazing, outdoor yard' from dropdown list and enter further information as required, e.g. for slurry storage add the tonnage if fresh manure is being added, (an entry of '0' is required if slurry is being stored), number of storage days per year, surface area in m², type of container and how it will be covered. Click on the red 'Get Emissions Values' button to populate the template.

It is possible to enter additional sources, e.g., if there are more than one housing units in different locations on the farm. Select 'add source' from drop down menu and enter the details for the source as described above and click on the red 'Get Emissions Values' button after each addition to populate the template.

'Designated site details' - select a search area of 10km and proceed to identify sensitive sites in proximity (**click on red 'Run Receptor Search' button**).

Saving the Input file:

To save the Input file click on the red 'Save Inputs' button at the bottom left of the screen and select 'save as' with an appropriate name and location and include with your application (.inp file extension). The input file can also be saved from the front screen by selecting 'Save Input Data' using the same process. Do not press 'Calculate' here or the information will not be saved.

Calculate the emissions:

Once you have saved your input files, you can calculate the emissions for the final assessment at the bottom of the page (click on red 'Calculate' button). This will calculate the emissions emitted from the proposal and received at each of the designated sites. If you need to return to the original page, click on the green 'Back Button' at bottom right of screen.

Saving the Outputs:

Once the pre-populated results are visible, scroll down and click on the red 'Save Results' button and select 'save as' with an appropriate name and location (.csv file extension). This file should also be included with the application.

Reducing emissions:

Total Depositions/Concentrations and Exceedances ?					
Concentrations/Depositions and Critical Loads/Levels	NH ₃ (µg/m ³)	N Dep. (kg N/ha/yr)	Acid Dep. (kEq H ⁺ /ha/yr)	PM ₁₀ (µg/m ³)	Odour (Ou/m ³)
Process Contribution (PC) at receptor edge	0.33203	2.60	0.180	-	-
Background concentration at receptor edge ?	1.14	21.42	1.71 (N:1.53 S:0.18)	-	-
Predicted Environmental Concentration/Deposition (PEC) ?	1.47	24.02	1.89	-	-
Environmental Assessment Level or Critical Load / Level ?	Lower: 1 Upper: 3 ?	3.0 Broad-leaved, mixed and yew woodland	maxN: 1.32 maxS: 1.04 minN: 0.14 Broad-leaved, mixed and yew woodland	-	-
ALTERNATIVE CRITICAL LOAD INFO					
USE OWN THRESHOLDS?					
% of relevant standard PC ?	Lower: 33% Upper: 11%	87%	14%	-	-
% of relevant standard PEC ?	Lower: 147% Upper: 49%	801%	143%	-	-
EXCEEDANCE ?	Lower: 0.47 Upper: No exceedance	21.02	0.57	-	-
Project Notes					
test					

Further ideas on mitigation can be found in the Code of Good Agricultural Practice for Reducing Ammonia Emissions - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/code-of-good-agricultural-practice-for-reducing-ammonia-emissions/code-of-good-agricultural-practice-cogap-for-reducing-ammonia-emissions>

PLEASE NOTE:

Should the applicant wish to replace an old slurry lagoon or housing with a new system, or change livestock type or numbers, a SCAIL report should be run and submitted for both the existing and the proposed scenario. This can be done by saving the current file, then pressing the SCAIL back button (not the web browser back button), changing the details, recalculating and saving the new file.