

22nd February 2013

Steve Gamble
Land and Planning Director
Gleeson
6 Europa Court
Sheffield Business Park
Sheffield
S9 1XE

Our Ref: 410.03044.00004_L_Bolton on Dearne Odour, YWS Response

Dear Steve,

RE: LAND OFF LOWFIELD ROAD, BOLTON ON DEARNE, BARNSELY – ODOUR ASSESSMENT: RESPONSE TO YORKSHIRE WATER PRE-APPLICATION ENQUIRY

In response to comments made by Yorkshire Water Services (YWS) during a pre-application enquiry on a proposed residential development on land off Lowfield Road, Bolton on Dearne, and the Odour Assessment submitted in support of the planning application (dated 17/01/2013, reference: N015530), please find below a response by SLR Consulting Ltd (SLR) which addresses those comments made by YWS.

YWS Comment:

b) $50\text{ou}_\text{E}/\text{m}^3$ is a typical cut off point for odour complaints. (NB. complaints may occur at lower levels of odour depending on the sensitivity of the receptor. It is unlikely that complaints would be received at levels lower than $20\text{ou}_\text{E}/\text{m}^3$).

SLR Response:

SLR note that YWS have agreed to the odour assessment criterion of $50\text{ou}_\text{E}/\text{m}^3$ as a 98th percentile of 1-hour average concentrations ($C_{98, 1\text{-hour}}$ $50\text{ou}_\text{E}/\text{m}^3$) as sourced from:

- the recommendations of the Chartered Institute of Water and Environmental management (CIWEM) in a policy position statement on odour;
- the level which was accepted by a Planning Inspector at the Newbiggin-by-the-Sea, Cockermouth, Leighton Linlade and Haverhill public enquiries where circumstances were very similar; and
- an impact criteria applied by YWS for assessments undertaken during their asset management.

SLR are not aware of the assessment criterion of $C_{98, 1\text{-hour}}$ $20\text{ou}_\text{E}/\text{m}^3$ being sourced anywhere from literature, as referenced by YWS.

YWS Comment:

a) Odorous air being displaced during tanker filling from the sludge storage tanks. The report states that:

"During these periods, it is expected that the generation of odour would be elevated for a short period of time, but considering the frequency and duration of such operations from the site (circa.1hour per fortnight, total of 26-hours per year) these would not significantly compromise the amenity of the development."

Whilst it may not be possible to include such short-duration events in the odour model, we disagree with the above statement and think that it is highly likely that discharges of this type may cause loss of amenity and odour complaints.

SLR Response:

SLR consider that during periods when the sludge storage tanks are emptied, the system would operate in a closed manner whereby displaced air from the tanker would be circulated into the sludge storage tank to prevent a vacuum from occurring. In this respect, periods when sludge storage tanks are emptied would not result in the generated of unabated odour which would significantly compromise the amenity of the development.

YWS Comment:

b) Similarly, the model takes no account of operational issues including spills from the sludge holding tanks (which had happened whilst the monitoring work was being carried out) and odours arising from non-routine operations such as the removal of grit from the inlet works channels , which led to a maximum H₂S concentration of 5.7ppm being measured in the odour samples from this source. These incidents / operations may happen / be carried out on an infrequent basis, but may lead to odours extending beyond the contours given in the maps in Appendix AQ1.

SLR Response:

Those described by YWS above are considered to be non-standard operation due to malfunction of site-processes and-or vandalism and, thus, are outside of 'normal operating conditions'. As such, it is not considered either a requirement or appropriate to account for these in the Odour Assessment.

SLR also note that the method statement issued to YWS, which was agreed on 02/04/2012 and 10/05/2012 was for odour generated by the 'standard operation' of the Bolton on Dearne wastewater treatment works (WwTW), which does not account for odour resulting from non-standard operation.

Closure

SLR consider that the results of the Odour Assessment remain defensible, in the assessment of potential odour from the Bolton on Dearne WwTW ensuring that those locations of outside of the predicted $C_{98, 1\text{-hour}} 5.0\text{ouE/m}^3$ exposure criteria are sufficient to ensure the amenity of residents of the Gleeson development would not be witness to any significant detrimental impact.

I trust the above provides you with sufficient information However, please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any further queries.

SLR

Yours sincerely
SLR Consulting Limited

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Blacklock', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Graeme Blacklock
Associate, Air Quality