

WM Morrisons – Spalding Abattoir

Brunel Road, Pinchbeck, Spalding PE11 3YY

Design Statement
November 2021

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1.0 Introduction

This Design Statement is to support a full application for a new Sludge Dewatering Unit and associated Dosing Unit Shed on site at the Morrisons / Woodhead Brothers Spalding Abattoir site in Pinchbeck.

The Spalding abattoir is meat processing plant part of the Woodhead Brothers group, a wholly owned subsidiary of Wm Morrison Supermarket Limited.

2.0 Project Details

2.1 Background

Through its lairage and abattoir facilities, the site produces a considerable volume of effluent which cannot be disposed off through the foul water system. The sludge is stores in two effluent tanks on site before being taken away to be disposed off in line with Environmental Agency policies. These effluent tanks are currently being replaced like-for-like and improvement to the effluent plant bund wall being carried out as part of Wm Morrison's continuous improvement of their facilities. These works, as essential maintenance and 'like-for-like- replacement, are not subject to planning consent and do not form part of the current planning application.



Effluent tanks seen from staff car park

A change in legislation by the Environment Agency came into force at the beginning of September 2021 stipulating that liquid sludge cannot be spread to land from 1st September to 28th February. This is an increase of 3 months on previous years where it could be spread to land between 1st December to 28th February. The waste companies that handle liquid sludge generally stored liquid sludge during the 3 months when spreading to land was not permitted. With the additional 3 months the waste companies handling sludge do not have enough capacity to store all the liquid sludge generated by their clients. Alternative disposal routes are very limited and expensive due to the nature of the effluent, and are not necessarily available all of the time. This creates a business critical issue with respect to the disposal of sludge. The only viable option for the site is to dewater the sludge into cake, such that the sludge can be removed from site in solid form. Disposal options for sludge as a cake are much more widely available, thus ensuring a viable disposal route during the months of September through to the end of February. The installation of sludge dewatering equipment is therefore critical for ongoing viability of the business and to comply with the Environmental Agency's policies.

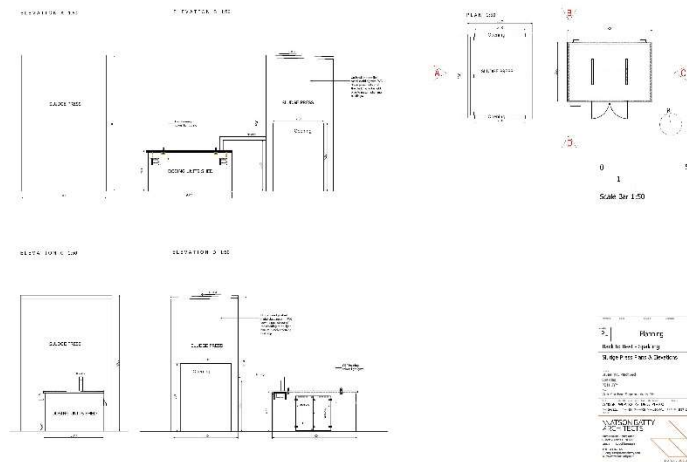
2.2 Proposals

The proposals are to install a sludge dewatering press within the effluent plant area, in close proximity to the effluent tanks. This will be within the perimeter of the bund wall which forms a barrier between the effluent plant and the rest of the site / neighbouring land.

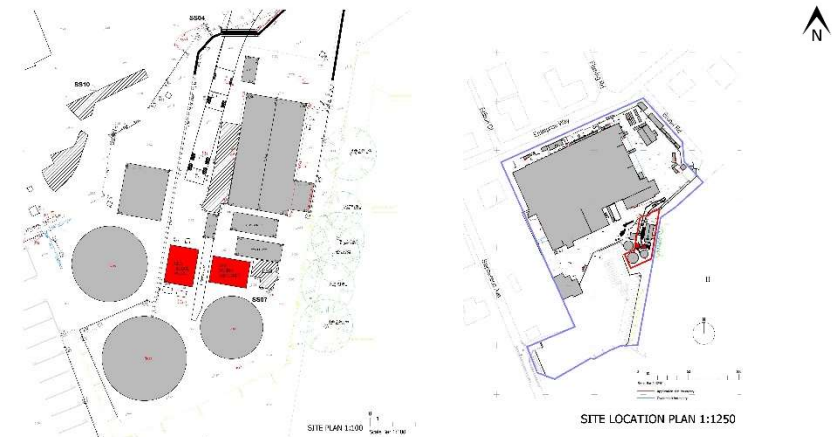
The press will sit on a platform at high level and be housed within a 5m x 3.8m x 8m high profiled metal cladding shed. The colour of the cladding will match that of other cladding in nearby buildings. Two large openings will be created at ground level on both side of the shed, to allow a trailer to be positioned below the press and receive the 'cakes' produced by the dewatering press. These by-products can then be taken away from site.

Adjoining this shed, another smaller GRP shed will house the chemical dosing units to supply the required chemicals to the press as part of the process, via a high level pipe bridge.

These units will sit within an area of other industrial sheds / tanks and will not stand out in this background. The effluent plant is at the center of the site and not visible from the highway. The proposed new sheds will be partly screened from the staff car park by the effluent tanks and sprinkler tank nearby. Therefore we are confident the proposals will not negatively impact the site or local amenities.



Sheds plans and elevations



Effluent Plant Site Plan

Site Location Plan