

FAO: Helen Pressley
Bury Metropolitan Borough Council
Town Hall Knowsley Street
Bury
Lancashire
BL9 0SW

Our ref: SO/2025/125063/01-L01
Your ref: 71922
Date: 26 June 2025

Dear Helen,

Construction Of A Lined Earth Bank Slurry Lagoon

Falshaws Farm, Rowlands Road, Bury, BL9 5LJ

Thank you for consulting us on the above application, on 12 June 2025.

Environment Agency Position

We have no objection in principle to the proposed development but take this opportunity to provide the following comments.

Agricultural Buildings

If the buildings are to be used for livestock housing, the operator must ensure that they comply with the relevant regulations regarding the storage of slurry and silage. Any increase in the numbers of livestock may require the construction or expansion of slurry and silage storage facilities. The operator should ensure that they comply with the requirements of **The Water Resources (Control of Pollution) (Silage, Slurry and Agricultural Fuel Oil) (England) Regulations 2010**, commonly known as the **SSAFO regs**, and the storage requirements of **The Nitrate Pollution Prevention Regulations 2015**, commonly known as the **NVZ regs**.

Slurry storage

If your livestock produces slurry, you must be able to store the slurry produced in accordance with the Regulations on capacity, construction, and the associated calculations and records.

Depending on the relevant regulations, slurry stores **MUST** have the capacity to store 4, 5 or 6 months slurry and:

- rainfall expected to enter the store during the storage period including yards and roofs; and
- any wash water or other liquids that enter the store during that period.

If you have poultry manure or other types of solid manure **YOU MUST** store them:

Environment Agency
Richard Fairclough House Knutsford Road, Warrington, WA4 1HT.
Customer services line: 03708 506 506
www.gov.uk/environment-agency

Cont/d..

- in a vessel;
- on an impermeable base, with appropriate collection and containment of runoff;
- in a roofed building; or
- in an appropriately located temporary field heap.

If you build a new facility for storing organic manure (ie slurry stores or impermeable bases for solid manure) and/or if you substantially reconstruct or enlarge your existing facilities, YOU MUST:

- comply with standards set down in the SSAFO Regulations, and
- **notify the Environment Agency** in writing about your intention to build a new store, or substantially enlarge or reconstruct an existing store at least 14 days before you start construction or reconstruction works.

Silage storage

All parts of a silo must be resistant to attack. Your silo must have:

- an impermeable base extending beyond any walls
- impermeable drainage collection channels around the outside, flowing into an appropriately sized effluent tank

Further guidance is available at

- <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/storing-silage-slurry-and-agricultural-fuel-oil#silage>
- <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/storing-organic-manures-in-nitrate-vulnerable-zones#constructing-or-enlarging-your-storage-facilities>
- [Protecting our water, soil and air: A code of Good Agricultural Practice for farmers, growers and land managers](#)

If you need any help or would like to talk to someone about your proposals, please contact your farming consultant, or your local Environment Agency officer if you know them, or the Environment Agency by email: enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk, or by telephone: 03708 506 506.

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Should you have any queries regarding this response, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Holly Jones

Sustainable Places Planning Advisor

Team email: SPPlanning.RFH@environment-agency.gov.uk