



Industry Assessments
Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
Locked Bag 5022
PARRAMATTA NSW 2124

Attention: Mr Jeffrey Peng

Notice Number 1605818

Date 26-Feb-2021

RE: Grenfell Poultry Breeder Farm - 1130 Gooloogong Road, Grenfell - SSD 3855453

I refer to your request to the Environment Protection Authority's (EPA) dated 2 February 2021, seeking the EPA's Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEAR's) to assist with the preparation of an Environmental Impacts Statement (EIS) for the proposal of a Poultry Breeder Farm at 1130 Gooloogong Road, Grenfell.

The EPA has considered the details of the proposal as provided by Department of Planning Industry and Environment (DPE) and has identified the information it requires to issue its general terms of approval in Attachment A. In summary, the EPA's key information requirements for the proposal include an adequate assessment of:

- 1. Noise and vibration** - Proximity to sensitive receptors and impacts of any sources associated with the project, including operational noise from shed cooling systems;
- 2. Air** - Dust and odour generation and management of potential impacts on adjacent landscape and/or communities;
- 3. Water and Soils** - Water balance, water management systems and the implementation of adequate erosion and sediment controls to control any surface runoff from the operation. Assessment of any reuse/irrigation proposals to demonstrate sustainable land application practices and monitoring programs are adopted.
- 4. Waste Management - Mortality Management Plan** - Management of mortalities under normal operating conditions and in the event of a mass death scenario, to prevent odour emissions, contain pathogens, control vermin and disease vectors, and protect surface water and groundwater from pollution.

In carrying out the assessment, the proponent should refer to the relevant guidelines as listed in Attachment A and any relevant industry codes of practice and best practice management guidelines.

Please note that this response does not cover biodiversity or Aboriginal cultural heritage issues, which are the responsibility of the Office of Environment and Heritage.



The EPA notes that the proposed development, the facility will have capacity to hold 560,560 birds, therefore reaching the scheduled threshold for licensing under the provisions of the protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997. As such, the proponent will require an Environment Protection Licence to construct and operate the proposed facility if approval is granted. The proponent will need to make a separate application to the EPA at the completion of the assessment process.

General information on licence requirements can be obtained from the EPA's Environment Line by calling 131 555 or on the EPA's website at www.epa.nsw.gov.au/licensing/licencePOEO.htm.

The Proponent should be made aware that any commitments made in the EA may be formalised as approval conditions and may also be placed as formal licence conditions.

The Proponent should be made aware that, consistent with provisions under Part 9.4 of the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997* ("the Act") the EPA may require the provision of a financial assurance and/or assurances. The amount and form of the assurance(s) would be determined by the EPA and required as a condition of an Environment Protection Licence ("EPL").

In addition, as a requirement of an EPL, the EPA will require the Proponent to prepare, test and implement a Pollution Incident Response Management Plan and/or Plans in accordance with Section 153A of the Act.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Karen Willows'.

.....
Karen Willows
Acting Unit Head
Regional North - Grafton

(by Delegation)



ATTACHMENT A: Environmental Assessment Requirements

Grenfell Poultry Breeder Farm

1. Environmental impacts of the project

- 1.1. The Environmental Assessment (EA) must address the requirements of Section 45 of the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 (POEO Act) by determining the extent of each impact and providing sufficient information to enable the EPA to determine appropriate conditions, limits and monitoring requirements for an Environment Protection Licence (EPL).
- 1.2. Impacts related to the following environmental issues need to be assessed, quantified and reported on:
 - **Air Issues:** air quality including dust and odour generation from the operation on the surrounding landscape and/or community;
 - **Noise and vibration impacts** associated with blasting (if applicable), and operational noise particularly machinery, including cooling systems for the sheds and plant movements;
 - **Waste** including hazardous materials and radiation. Consideration needs to be given to disposal options for general waste, sanitary waste as well as hazardous materials and radiation, where relevant.
 - **Water and Soils** including site water balance and sediment and erosion controls during construction and operation phases.

The EA should address the specific requirements outlined under each heading below and assess impacts in accordance with the relevant guidelines mentioned.

2. Licensing requirements

- 2.1. The development is a scheduled activity under the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997* (POEO Act) and will therefore require an Environment Protection Licence (EPL) if approval is granted.
- 2.2. Should project approval be granted, the proponent will need to make an application to the EPA for its EPL for the proposed facility prior to undertaking any on site works. Additional information is available through the *EPA Guide to Licensing* document (www.epa.nsw.gov.au/licensing/licenceguide.htm).

SPECIFIC ISSUES

3 Air issues

- 3.1. The EA must demonstrate the proposal's ability to comply with the relevant regulatory framework, specifically the *Protection of the Environment Operations (POEO) Act (1997)* and the *POEO (Clean*



Air) Regulation (2002). Particular consideration should be given to section 129 of the POEO Act concerning control of “offensive odour”.

- 3.2. The EA must include an air quality impact assessment (AQIA).
- 3.3. The AQIA must be carried out in accordance with the document, *Approved Methods for the Modelling and Assessment of Air Pollutants in NSW* (2005)
<http://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/resources/air/ammodelling05361.pdf>.
- 3.4. The EA must detail emission control techniques/practices that will be employed at the site and identify how the proposed control techniques/practices will meet the requirements of the POEO Act, *POEO (Clean Air) Regulation* and associated air quality limits or guideline criteria.
- 3.5. Odour emissions must be assessed in accordance with the *Technical Framework – Assessment and Management of Odour from Stationary Sources in NSW* and/or *Technical Notes-Assessment and Management of Odour from Stationary Sources in NSW (DEC 2006)*.
- 3.6. Odour assessment must include and investigation and assessment of odour impacts likely to be associated with cold air drainage effects on all identified and potential receivers.
- 3.7. It is strongly recommended the proponent install a meteorological station as soon as possible on or near the proposed site, or if applicable, utilise existing onsite meteorological data, to obtain site-specific meteorological data for a minimum of 3 months or ideally 6-12 months to aid in refining odour assessment and modelling.
- 3.8. Collection of wind speed data using an ultrasonic wind speed sensor to ensure accurate representation of low wind speed frequencies to allow more accurate prediction of likely katabatic impact receivers is recommended.

4. Noise and Vibration

The EA must assess the following noise and vibration aspects of the proposed development

- 4.1. Construction noise associated with the proposed development should be assessed using the *Interim Construction Noise Guideline* (DECC, 2009). These are available at:<https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/your-environment/noise/industrial-noise/interim-construction-noise-guideline>
- 4.2. Vibration from all activities (including construction and operation) to be undertaken on the premises should be assessed using the guidelines contained in the *Assessing Vibration: a technical guideline* (DEC, 2006). These are available at:
<https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/your-environment/noise/industrial-noise/assessing-vibration>
- 4.3. If blasting is required for any reasons during the construction or operational stage of the proposed development, blast impacts should be demonstrated to be capable of complying with the guidelines contained in *Australian and New Zealand Environment Council – Technical basis for guidelines to minimise annoyance due to blasting overpressure and ground vibration* (ANZEC, 1990). These are available at:



<https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/your-environment/noise/industrial-noise/interim-construction-noise-guideline>

- 4.4. Operational noise from all industrial activities (including private haul roads and private railway lines) to be undertaken on the premises should be assessed using the guidelines contained in the *NSW Noise Policy for Industry* (EPA, 2017).
[https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/your-environment/noise/noise-policy-for-industry-\(2017\)](https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/your-environment/noise/noise-policy-for-industry-(2017))
- 4.5. Noise on public roads from increased road traffic generated by land use developments should be assessed using the guidelines contained in the *NSW Road Noise Policy* and associated application notes (EPA, 2011).
<https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/your-environment/noise/transport-noise>

5. Waste, chemicals and hazardous materials and radiation

- 5.3. The EA must assess all aspects of waste generation, management and disposal associated with the proposed development.
- 5.4. The EA must demonstrate compliance with all regulatory requirements outlined in the POEO Act and associated waste regulations.
- 5.5. The EA must identify, characterise and classify the following in accordance with the EPA's *Waste Classification Guidelines (2014)* and associated addendums:
 - (i) all waste that will be generated onsite through excavation, demolition or construction activities, including proposed quantities of the waste;
 - (ii) all waste that is proposed to be disposed of to an offsite location, including proposed quantities of the waste and the disposal locations for the waste. This includes waste that is intended for re-use or recycling.

Note: The EPA's *Waste Classification Guidelines (2014)* and associated addendums are available at:
<https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/your-environment/waste/classifying-waste>

- 5.6. The EA must outline contingency plans for any event that may result in environmental harm, such as excessive stockpiling of material, or dirty water volumes exceeding the storage capacity available on-site.
- 5.7. The EA must demonstrate that appropriate spill containment will be provided for storage, filling and loading of all fuels and other chemicals to be used on site, in accordance with the relevant Australian Standard.
- 5.8. Provide details of how waste will be handled and managed onsite, including:
 - a) Stockpile location and management
 - Labelling of stockpiles for identification, ensuring that all waste is clearly identified and stockpiled separately from other types of material (Especially the separation of any contaminated and non-contaminated waste).
 - Proposed height limits for all waste to reduce the potential for dust and odour.



- Procedures for minimising the movement of waste around the site and double-handling.
- Measures to minimise leaching from stockpiles into the surrounding environment, such as sediment fencing, geofabric liners and hardstands.

b) Mortality disposal arrangements

- Define disposal methods and locations for normal operations and possible mass death scenarios.
- Procedures for preventing the spread of pathogens or disease.
- Measures for protecting surface and/or groundwaters from pollution.
- Measures to prevent offensive odour generated by mortality disposal
- Measures to control or prevent vermin and disease vectors.

5.7. The proponent should provide details of:

- How leachate from stockpile waste material will be kept separated from stormwater runoff;
- Treatment of leachate through a wastewater treatment plant (if applicable); and
- Any proposed transport and disposal of leachate off-site

6. Water

6.1. The EA must demonstrate how the proposed development will meet the requirements of section 120 of the POEO Act.

6.2. The EA must include a water balance for the development including water requirements (quantity, quality and source(s)) and proposed storm and wastewater disposal, including type, volumes, proposed treatment and management methods and re-use options.

6.3. If the proposed development intends to discharge waters to the environment, the EA must demonstrate how the discharge(s) will be managed in terms of water quantity, quality and frequency of discharge and include an impact assessment of the discharge on the receiving environment. This should include:

- Description of the proposal including position of any intakes and discharges, volumes, water quality and frequency of all water discharges.
- Description of the receiving waters including upstream and downstream water quality as well as any other water users.
- Demonstration that all practical options to avoid discharge have been implemented and environmental impact minimised where discharge is necessary.

6.4. The EA must refer to Water Quality Objectives for the receiving waters and indicators and associated trigger values or criteria for the identified environmental values of the receiving



environment. This information should be sourced from the ANZECC (2000) Guidelines for Fresh and Marine Water Quality (<http://www.environment.gov.au/water/policy-programs/nwqms/>).

- 6.5. The EA must describe how stormwater will be managed in all phases of the project, including details of how stormwater and runoff will be managed to minimise pollution. Information should include measures to be implemented to minimise erosion, leachate and sediment mobilisation at the site. The EA should consider the guidelines *Managing urban stormwater: soils and construction*, vol. 1 (Landcom 2004) and vol. 2 (A. Installation of services; C. Unsealed roads; D. Main Roads; E. Mines and quarries) (DECC, 2008).
- 6.6. The EA must describe any water quality monitoring programs to be carried out at the project site. Water quality monitoring should be undertaken in accordance with the *Approved Methods for the Sampling and Analysis of Water Pollutant in NSW* (2004) which is available at: <http://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/resources/legislation/approvedmethods-water.pdf>.
- 6.7. The EA must describe how stormwater will be managed in all phases of the project, including details of how stormwater and runoff will be managed to minimise pollution. Information should include measures to be implemented to minimise erosion, leachate and sediment mobilisation at the site. The EA should consider the guidelines *Managing urban stormwater: soils and construction*, vol. 1 (Landcom 2004) and vol. 2 (A. Installation of services; B. Waste landfills C. Unsealed roads; D. Main Roads; E. Mines and quarries) (DECC, 2008).
- 6.8. Erosion, sediment and leachate control measures to be implemented to minimise erosion, leachate and sediment mobilisation at the site during construction and operation phases of the project. The EA should show the location of each measure to be implemented. Include such control measures such as:
 - Sediment traps
 - Diversion banks
 - Sediment fences
 - Bunds (earth, hay, mulch)
 - Geofabric liners
 - Other control measures as appropriate.
- 6.9. Erosion, sediment and leachate control measures to be implemented to minimise erosion. Assessment undertaken of the design of terminal pond systems to manage stormwater runoff (and if applicable tailwater) from any proposed effluent utilisation area to minimise water quality impacts on the nearest watercourses.
- 6.10. Discharges from the site must be characterised with respect to their location, frequency, volume and likely water quality.
- 6.11. If the proposal incorporates effluent or manure/litter application/utilisation to cropping lands on the premises, an assessment of the sustainability of these utilisation practices must be provided. The assessment must be undertaken in accordance with the *Environmental Guidelines for the Use of Effluent by Irrigation* (DEC, 2004).



The assessment must identify soil constraints where applicable to the application of manures and/or effluent and include nutrient balance and salt management assessments. Maps of proposed manure and/or effluent application areas must be provided in the EA.

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