



24G Application: 14/2/4/2/1/F2/4/0033/21

---

## ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION

The Owner  
Portion 10 Farm 230 Wagendrift  
PO Box 175  
LAMBERTS BAAI  
8130

Email: [cliffsmith1955@gmail.com](mailto:cliffsmith1955@gmail.com)  
Email: [accounts@sandveld-aartappels.co.za](mailto:accounts@sandveld-aartappels.co.za)

Tel: (083) 638 8636

**Attention: Izak Schalk Willem & Johanna Gertruida van Zyl**

### **APPLICATION IN TERMS OF SECTION 24G OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, 1998 (ACT 107 OF 1998) ("NEMA"): UNLAWFUL COMMENCEMENT OF A LISTED ACTIVITY: THE UNLAWFUL CONSTRUCTION OF FEEDLOTS ON PTN 10 OF FARM 230, WAGENDRIFT, CLANWILLIAM**

With reference to your application dated 25 July 2022 in terms of section 24G of the NEMA for the consequences of unlawful commencement of listed activities identified in terms of the NEMA, find below the decision in respect of your application.

#### **A. DECISION**

By virtue of the powers conferred by section 24G of the NEMA and the *Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014* ("EIA Regulations, 2014") (as amended), the competent authority herewith **grants environmental authorisation** to the applicant to continue with the listed activities specified in Section C below in accordance with the preferred alternative as described in the application and environmental assessment dated 25 July 2022.

The granting of this Environmental Authorisation is for the continuation, conducting or undertaking of the listed activities as described in Section C below and is subject to compliance with the conditions set out in Section G. This Environmental Authorisation shall only take effect from the date on which it has been issued.

The Environmental Authorisation does not exempt the holder thereof from compliance with any other applicable legislation.

## B. DETAILS OF THE APPLICANT FOR THIS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION

Ms Johanna Gertruida van Zyl  
 Portion 10 Farm 230 Wagendrift  
 PO Box 175  
 LAMBERTS BAAI  
 8130

Cell: (083) 638 8636

Email: cliffsmith1955@gmail.com/ accounts@sandveld-aartappels.co.za

The abovementioned applicant is the holder of this Environmental Authorisation and is hereinafter referred to as "the holder".

## C. LIST OF ACTIVITIES AUTHORISED

Listed Activities	Activity/Project Description
<p>Government Notice No. R. 327 of 7 April 2017 –</p> <p><b>Activity Number: 4</b></p> <p>Activity Description: <i>The development and related operation of facilities or infrastructure for the concentration of animals in densities that exceed—</i></p> <p>(i) 20 square metres per large stock unit and more than 500 units per facility;</p> <p>(ii) 8 square meters per small stock unit and;</p> <p>a. more than 1 000 units per facility excluding pigs where (b) applies; or</p> <p>b. more than 250 pigs per facility excluding piglets that are not yet weaned;</p>	<p>The holder has constructed and completed feedlots of ~7 380 m<sup>2</sup> for 1 600 units of small stock (lambs). The applicant has also completed the construction of two additional feedlots of 4 480 m<sup>2</sup> and 2 400 m<sup>2</sup>. The constructed feedlots will increase the current concentration of the small stock units from 1 600 to 3 600. The feedlots can however hold up to ~5 000 lambs.</p>

<p>(iii) 30 square metres per crocodile and more than 20 crocodiles per facility;  (iv) 3 square metres per rabbit and more than 500 rabbits per facility; or  (v) 250 square metres per ostrich or emu and more than 50 ostriches or emus per facility.</p>	
<p>Government Notice No. R. 327 of 7 April 2017 –  <b>Activity Number: 27</b>  Activity Description: The clearance of an area of 1 hectares or more, but less than 20 hectares of indigenous vegetation, except where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for—  (i) the undertaking of a linear activity; or  (ii) maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan.</p>	<p>An area of approximately 1,1 hectares had been cleared for the establishment of the feedlots.</p>

The abovementioned list is hereinafter referred to as “the listed activities/the development”.

#### D. PROPERTY DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION

The listed activities commenced on Portion 10 of Farm 230, Wagendrift.

The SG digit code is: C0200000000023000010

The co-ordinates for the property boundary are:

Point	Latitude (S)	Longitude (E)
1	32° 12' 28.84" South	18° 23' 04.83" East
2	32° 12' 09.63" South	18° 23' 36.73" East
3	32° 10' 59.87" South	18° 23' 10.27" East
4	32° 10' 33.74" South	18° 22' 01.78" East
5	32° 10' 55.64" South	18° 22' 01.04" East
6	32° 12' 25.07" South	18° 23' 06.85" East

The co-ordinates for the site boundary are:

Existing Feedlot 1			
Point	Latitude (S)		Longitude (E)
1	32°	12' 16.20" South	18° 23' 08.85" East
2	32°	12' 15.96" South	18° 23' 09.59" East
3	32°	12' 18.15" South	18° 23' 10.42" East
4	32°	12' 18.34" South	18° 23' 09.63" East

Existing Feedlot 2			
Point	Latitude (S)		Longitude (E)
1	32°	12' 18.77" South	18° 23' 03.32" East
2	32°	12' 17.91" South	18° 23' 06.11" East
3	32°	12' 19.12" South	18° 23' 06.56" East
4	32°	12' 19.31" South	18° 23' 06.02" East
5	32°	12' 20.35" South	18° 23' 06.37" East
6	32°	12' 20.65" South	18° 23' 05.70" East
7	32°	12' 20.81" South	18° 23' 05.64" East
8	32°	12' 21.08" South	18° 23' 04.69" East
9	32°	12' 20.91" South	18° 23' 04.11" East

Existing Feedlot 3			
Point	Latitude (S)		Longitude (E)
1	32°	12' 15.72" South	18° 23' 04.90" East
2	32°	12' 15.33" South	18° 23' 06.90" East
3	32°	12' 17.37" South	18° 23' 07.72" East
4	32°	12' 17.85" South	18° 23' 05.68" East

Existing Feedlot 4			
Point	Latitude (S)		Longitude (E)
1	32°	12' 14.93"	18° 23' 09.51" East
2	32°	12' 14.64"	18° 23' 10.39" East
3	32°	12' 17.83"	18° 23' 11.51" East
4	32°	12' 18.14"	18° 23' 10.56" East

Refer to Annexure 1: Locality Plan and Annexure 2: Site Plan.

Herein-after referred to as "the site".

## E. DETAILS OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER ("EAP")

Guillaume Nel Environmental Consultants

C/o Mr Cahlan Williams / Ms Euonell Visagie

P.O Box 175

LAMBERTS BAAI

8130

Tel: (021) 870 1874

Email: eg@gnec.co.za / cahlan@gnec.co.za

## F. DETAILS OF THE ACTIVITY/IES UNDERTAKEN

The unlawful activities entails the construction of feedlots on portion 10 of farm 230, Wagendrift, Clanwilliam.

The applicant initially constructed and completed feedlots of approximately 7 380 m<sup>2</sup> for 1 600 units of small stock (lambs). The applicant has recently completed the construction of additional feedlots of 6 680 m<sup>2</sup>. The constructed feedlots increased the concentration of the small stock units from 1 600 to 3 600. The feedlots can, however, hold up to approximately 5 000 lambs. An area of approximately 1,1 hectares has been cleared for the establishment of the feedlots.

## **G. CONDITIONS OF AUTHORISATION**

The following are conditions of authorisation that are set and must be implemented for this Environmental Authorisation.

### **PART I**

#### **Scope of authorisation**

1. The holder is authorised to undertake the listed activity/ies specified in Section C above in accordance with and restricted to the preferred Alternative described in the application and assessment report dated 25 July 2022 on the site as described in Section D above.
2. The holder shall be responsible for ensuring compliance with the conditions by any person acting on his/her behalf, including an agent, sub-contractor, employee or any person rendering a service to the holder.
3. Any changes to, or deviations from the scope of the alternative described in Section F above must be accepted or approved, in writing, by the competent authority before such changes or deviations may be implemented. In assessing whether to grant such acceptance/approval or not, the competent authority may request information to evaluate the significance and impacts of such changes or deviations, and it may be necessary for the holder to apply for further authorisation in terms of the applicable legislation.

### **PART II**

#### **Written notice to the competent authority**

4. Seven (7) calendar days' notice, in writing, must be given to the competent authority before continuation of the development and/or maintenance activities.
  - 4.1 The notice must make clear reference to the site details and 24G Reference number given above.
  - 4.2 The notice must also include proof of compliance with the following condition:  
Condition 5

## **PART III**

### **Notification and administration of an appeal**

5. The holder must in writing, within 14 (fourteen) calendar days of the date of this decision–
  - 5.1 notify all registered Interested and Affected Parties (“I&APs”) of –
    - 5.1.1 the outcome of the application;
    - 5.1.2 the reasons for the decision as included in Annexure 3;
    - 5.1.3 the date of the decision; and
    - 5.1.4 the date when the decision was issued.
  - 5.2 draw the attention of all registered I&APs to the fact that an appeal may be lodged against the decision in terms of the *National Appeals Regulations, 2014* detailed in Section I below.
  - 5.3 draw the attention of all registered I&APs to the manner in which they may access the decision.
  - 5.4 provide the registered I&APs with:
    - 5.4.1 the name of the holder (entity) of this Environmental Authorisation;
    - 5.4.2 name of the responsible person for this Environmental Authorisation;
    - 5.4.3 postal address of the holder;
    - 5.4.4 telephonic and fax details of the holder;
    - 5.4.5 e-mail address, if any, of the holder; and
    - 5.4.6 the contact details (postal and/or physical address, contact number, facsimile and e-mail address) of the decision-maker and all registered I&APs in the event that an appeal is lodged in terms of the *National Appeal Regulations, 2014*.
6. The listed activities, including site preparation, may not continue within 34 (thirty-four) calendar days from the date of issue of this Environmental Authorisation. In the event that an appeal is lodged with the Appeal Authority, the effect of this Environmental Authorisation is suspended until the appeal is decided.

## **PART IV**

### **Management of the activity/development**

7. The draft Environmental Management Programme ("EMPr") dated 29 July 2022 compiled by Guillaume Nel Environmental Consulting and submitted as part of the application for environmental authorisation is hereby approved and must be implemented.
8. The EMPr must be included in all contract documentation for all phases of implementation.

## **PART V**

### **Monitoring**

9. The holder must appoint a suitably experienced Environmental Control Officer ("ECO") before continuation of commencement of activities to ensure compliance with the EMPr and the conditions contained herein.
10. A copy of the Environmental Authorisation, EMPr, audit reports and compliance monitoring reports must be kept at the site of the authorised activities, and must be made available to anyone on request.
11. Access to the site referred to in Section D must be granted, and the environmental reports mentioned above must be produced, to any authorised official representing the competent authority who requests to see it for the purposes of assessing and/or monitoring compliance with the conditions contained herein.

## **PART VI**

### **Auditing**

12. In terms of regulation 34 of the *EIA Regulations, 2014* the holder must conduct environmental audits to determine compliance with the conditions of the Environmental Authorisation, the EMPr and submit Environmental Audit Reports to the competent authority annually and upon receiving such request in writing from the competent. The Audit Report must be prepared by an independent person and must consider all the information required in Appendix 7 of the *EIA Regulations, 2014*.



## **PART VII**

### **Activity/ Development Specific Conditions**

13. Should any heritage remains be exposed during excavations or any other actions on the site, these must immediately be reported to the Provincial Heritage Resources Authority of the Western Cape, Heritage Western Cape. Heritage remains uncovered or disturbed during earthworks must not be further disturbed until the necessary approval has been obtained from Heritage Western Cape.

Heritage remains include: meteorites, archaeological and/or paleontological remains (including fossil shells and trace fossils); coins; indigenous and/or colonial ceramics; any articles of value or antiquity; marine shell heaps; stone artefacts and bone remains; structures and other built features with heritage significance; rock art and rock engravings; and/or graves or unmarked human burials including grave goods and/or associated burial material.

14. A qualified archaeologist and/or palaeontologist must be contracted where necessary (at the expense of the holder) to remove any heritage remains. Heritage remains can only be disturbed by a suitably qualified heritage specialist working under a directive from the relevant heritage resources authority.

15. The construction and operational phase of the development must not negatively affect the Langveirivier to the south. Runoff from the site must be managed in such a way that no pollution/waste reaches the watercourse.

## **H. GENERAL MATTERS**

1. Notwithstanding this Environmental Authorisation, the holder must comply with any other statutory requirements that may be applicable when undertaking the listed activities.

2. Non-compliance with a condition or term of this Environmental Authorisation or EMPr may render the holder liable to criminal prosecution.

3. The holder must submit an application for amendment of the Environmental Authorisation to the competent authority where any detail with respect to the Environmental Authorisation must

be amended, added, substituted, corrected, removed or updated. If a new holder is proposed, an application for Amendment in terms of Part 1 of the *EIA Regulations, 2014* must be submitted.

Please note that an amendment is not required if there is a change in the contact details of the holder. In this case, the competent authority must only be notified of such changes.

4. The manner and frequency for updating the EMPr is as follows:

Amendments to the EMPr must be done in accordance with regulations 35 to 37 of the *EIA Regulations, 2014* or any relevant legislation that may be applicable at the time.

## I. APPEALS

Appeals must comply with the provisions contained in the *National Appeal Regulations, 2014*.

1. An appellant (if the holder) must –

1.1 submit an appeal in accordance with regulation 4 *National Appeal Regulations, 2014* to the Appeal Administrator and a copy of the appeal to any registered I&APs, any Organ of State with interest in the matter and the decision maker within 20 (twenty) calendar days from the date the holder was notified by the competent authority of this decision.

2. An appellant (if NOT the holder) must –

2.1 submit an appeal in accordance with regulation 4 *National Appeal Regulations, 2014* to the Appeal Administrator, and a copy of the appeal to the holder, any registered I&APs, any Organ of State with interest in the matter and the decision maker within 20 (twenty) calendar days from the date the holder notified the registered I&APs of this decision.

3. The holder (if not the appellant), the decision-maker, I&APs and Organ of State must submit their responding statements, if any, to the Appeal Authority and the appellant within 20 (twenty) calendar days from the date of receipt of the appeal submission.

4. This appeal and responding statement must be submitted to the address listed below -

By post: Attention: Marius Venter  
Western Cape Ministry of Local Government, Environmental Affairs &  
Development Planning  
Private Bag X9186, Cape Town, 8000; or

By facsimile: (021) 483 4174; or

By hand: Attention: Mr Marius Venter (Tel: 021-483 3721)  
Room 809, 8th floor Utilitas Building  
1 Dorp Street, Cape Town, 8000; or

By e-mail: [DEADP.Appeals@westerncape.gov.za](mailto:DEADP.Appeals@westerncape.gov.za)

**Note:** You are also requested to submit an electronic copy (Microsoft Word format) of the appeal and any supporting documents to the Appeal Administrator to the address listed above and/ or via e-mail to [DEADP.Appeals@westerncape.gov.za](mailto:DEADP.Appeals@westerncape.gov.za).

5. A prescribed appeal form, as well as assistance regarding the appeal processes is obtainable from the office of the appeal authority/ at: Tel. (021) 483 3721, E-mail [DEADP.Appeals@westerncape.gov.za](mailto:DEADP.Appeals@westerncape.gov.za) or URL <http://www.westerncape.gov.za/eadp>

## **J. CONSEQUENCES OF NON-COMPLIANCE WITH CONDITIONS**

Non-compliance with a condition or term of this Environmental Authorisation or EMPr may result in suspension or withdrawal of this Environmental Authorisation and may render the holder liable for criminal prosecution.

## **K. DISCLAIMER**

The Western Cape Government, appointed in terms of the conditions of this Environmental Authorisation, shall not be responsible for any damages or losses suffered by the holder, developer or his/her successor in any instance where construction or operation subsequent to

construction is temporarily or permanently stopped for reasons of non-compliance with the conditions as set out herein or any other subsequent document or legal action emanating from this decision.

Yours faithfully

---

**MRS ZAIDAH TOEFY**  
**ACTING DIRECTOR: ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE**

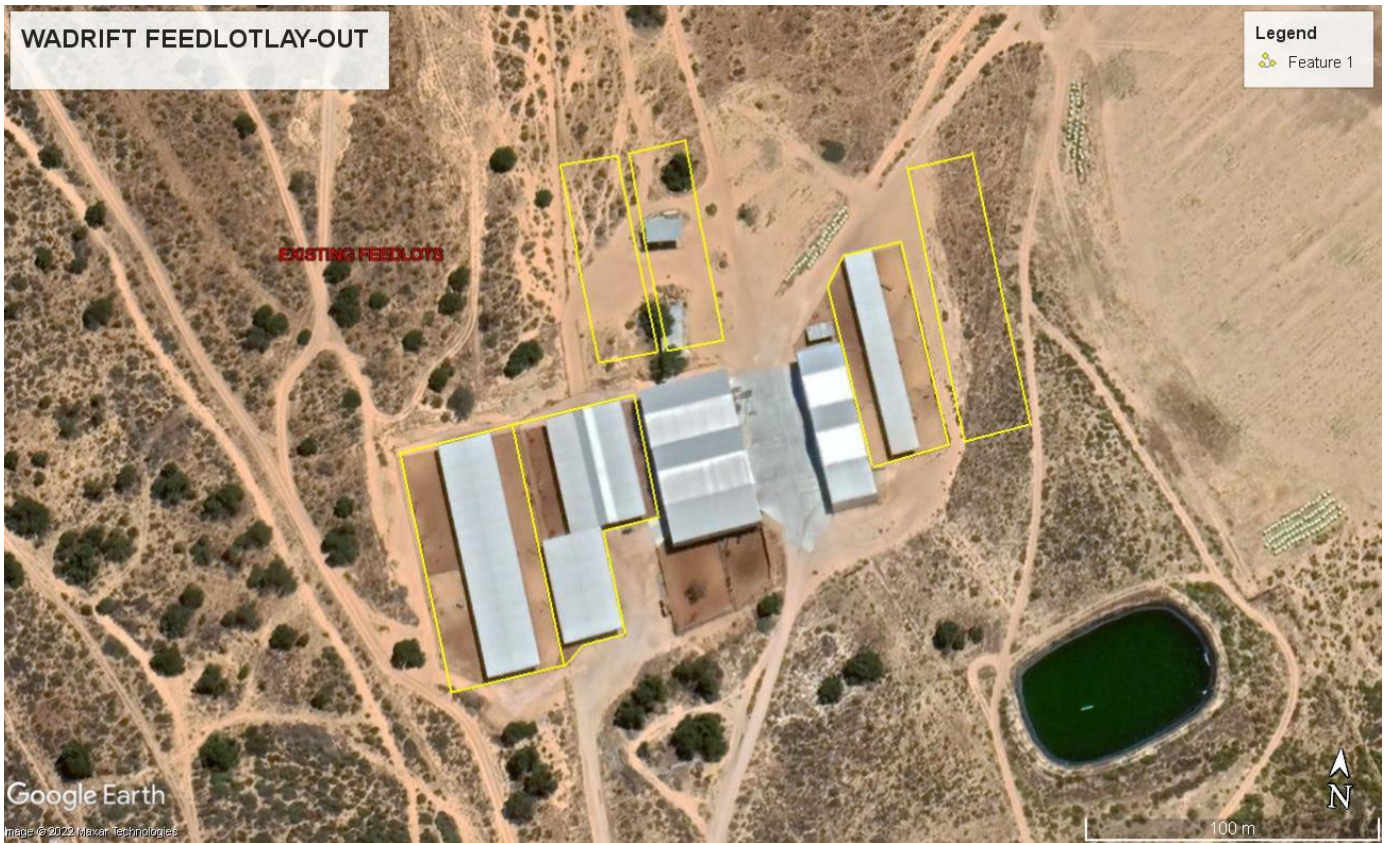
Copied to: (1) Cahlan Williams (EAP)

Email: [cahlan@gnec.co.za](mailto:cahlan@gnec.co.za)

## ANNEXURE 1: LOCALITY MAP



## ANNEXURE 2: SITE PLAN



**FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY:**

**S24G REFERENCE:**

**14/2/4/2/1/F2/4/0033/21**

**ANNEXURE 3: REASONS FOR THE DECISION**

This Environmental Authorisation is in respect of the consequences of commencement of the afore-mentioned illegal activities. An Environmental Assessment Practitioner ("EAP") was appointed to submit a section 24G Environmental Impact Assessment ("EIA") to the Department to obtain this Environmental Authorisation. The EIA was considered adequate for informed decision-making. In addition, the holder paid an administrative fine of R10 000 (Ten thousand Rand) to meet the requirements of section 24G of the *National Environmental Management Act, 1998* ("NEMA").

In reaching its decision, the competent authority, *inter alia*, considered the following:

- a) The information contained in the application form dated 25 July 2022 and the additional information received by the competent authority on 16 February 2023.
- b) The Environmental Management Programme ("EMPr") dated 29 July 2022 submitted together with the application form.
- c) Relevant information contained in the Departmental information base, including, the Guidelines on Public Participation and Alternatives.
- d) The objectives and requirements of relevant legislation, policies and guidelines, including section 2 of the NEMA.
- e) The comments received from Interested and Affected Parties ("I&APs") and the responses provided thereto.
- f) The sense of balance of the negative and positive impacts and proposed mitigation measures.
- g) The site visit conducted on 27 October 2022  
Attended by: Officials of the Directorate: Environmental Governance

All information presented to the competent authority was taken into account in the consideration of the application for environmental authorisation. A summary of the issues which, according to the competent authority, were the most significant reason for the decision is set out below.

## 1. Public Participation Process

In terms of section 24G(1)(vii)(dd) of the NEMA, "...a description of the public participation process followed during the course of compiling the report, including all comments received from interested and affected parties and an indication of how the issues raised have been addressed ...", is required.

The public participation process conducted by the EAP comprised of the following:

- identification of and engagement with I&APs.
- fixing a notice board at the site where the listed activities unlawfully commenced.
- giving written notice to the owners and occupiers of land adjacent to the site where the listed activities were undertaken, the municipality and ward councillor, and the various organs of state having jurisdiction in respect of any aspect of the listed activities on 14 May 2021.
- the placing of a newspaper advertisement in the **Ons Kontrei** on 14 May 2021.

Various concerns were raised by I&APs during the public participation process (PPP). A summary of the comments/concerns are found below:

- The current illegal feedlots currently cause enormous flies and buzzards in and around houses as well as the stench from feedlots which makes them unliveable.
- The feedlots/slaughterhouses are too close to the residential area and affect the quality of life of residents.
- Prevailing winds cause the stench of manure to hang over the residential area from the current illegal feedlots as well as from the manure that is regularly spread over the land.
- The density is too high - too many animals on each other with risks linked to the workers.
- Access routes over co-owners' land to residential areas create security problems as is already the case as there is no control over unauthorized access. More workers lead to more noise and disturbance of rest.
- Intensity of the industry will increase, and this will have a knock-on effect on local residents as it exposes the community to crime. Additionally, large vehicles can lead to accidents where children are walking and playing.



- Trucks taking the wrong turn to the farm entrance can damage the co-owners' farm road to residential area. The road is not suitable for heavy vehicles.
- Feed production will have to be increased to support the increased number of animals in the feedlot. This will put further pressure on the already dwindling water source. Water resources have been suppressed due to over-abstraction leading to salinization. Some of the applicant's boreholes have already been salted.
- Water scarcity in the area has been a prominent concern throughout the past two decades and the proposed feedlot does not only pose a risk of water contamination and pollution, it adds to the strain on already scarce water sources. All of the water for this portion of land is extracted from the same water resources in the area. This includes the applicant that uses water for the potato processing plant, growing potatoes and other crops and now adding the feedlot extract more water from the same water source.
- Concerns were raised regarding the increase in traffic through operations and yard of an I&AP - the transport of animals from the feedlot to the slaughter area/ meat processing plant poses a risk of contamination. The movement of workers as well as the increase in security risks can be avoided if the applicant and his workers all agree to use the route as provided by the I&AP as an alternative route which provides the same access to the area.
- The applicant must add grooving or texture to the concrete at the entrance to prevent animal injury.
- The applicant is taking animals from the current "unlawful feedlot" to an alternate slaughter area/ meat processing area in close proximity to the site.

The EAP indicated that the applicant has confirmed that the "private" abattoir does not have a product throughput of six (or more) red meat units (lambs) per day and therefore does not trigger additional listing notices in terms of the NEMA. The abattoir is used for private purposes to distribute lambs to the farm workers. Due to the informal nature of the activity, no formal tracking is in place, however given the amount of farm workers, the holder has confirmed that no more than 10 lambs are slaughtered each week. Furthermore, the "private" abattoir is not located at the feedlot site and the meat is packaged and frozen in 1kg units whereafter it is distributed to the farmworkers as needed. It is not used for commercial purposes.

The EAP confirmed that no composting activities will be undertaken on the site. All manure stemming from the feedlots will be sold to prospective buyers on a regular basis. No treatment of waste will occur on the site and will therefore not trigger waste management activities listed in the *National Environmental Management Waste Act, 2008* (Act No. 59 of 2008).

## Consultation with organs of state in terms of section 24O of the NEMA

The following organs of state provided comment on the application:

- CapeNature
- Cederberg Municipality
- West Coast District Municipality
- Western Cape Government: Department of Transport and Public Works
- Western Cape Department of Agriculture: Veterinary Services
- West Coast District Environmental Health Authority

CapeNature indicated that under section C 5.1 a) (pg. 26), it is indicated that the site is categorised as 'No Natural Remaining (NNR)'. However, it appears that the site is categorised as Ecological Support Area (ESA) 1. Was the category of NNR chosen based on the EAP's site assessment? This was subsequently corrected by the EAP.

CapeNature requested confirmation on whether any plant, reptile or mammal Species of Conservation Concern (SCC) were present in the areas proposed for development that could indicate that they could have been present in the developed area.

The EAP indicated that it is not expected that any plant, reptile or mammal SCC were present on-site as the site has been transformed by historical agricultural uses such as centre pivot irrigation as well as numerous informal dirt paths for several years now, which would have fragmented the natural habitat.

It was highlighted that Figure 1 indicates a waste drain line leading from a proposed feedlot to a waste drain. Clarification regarding the use of the waste drain line was required given that it is indicated under section F2 that the proposed activities will not produce waste. The EAP was required to also indicate the impacts of waste from the waste drain on the surrounding vegetation and on the Langvleirivier.

The EAP subsequently confirmed that the waste drain formed part of the proposed abattoir application on the site and has been removed from the layout appended to the s24G application.

Cederberg Municipality indicated that they do not object to the placement of the proposed feedlots, given the transformed nature of the site, provided that no plant, reptile or mammal SCC are affected and that waste management mitigation measures are developed and implemented. The construction and operational phase of the development must not negatively affect the Langvleirivier to the south.

The West Coast District Municipality stated that they do not wish to offer any comments on the NEMA 24G report pertaining to the Unlawful Feedlots on Portion 10 of Farm 230, Clanwilliam.

The Western Cape Department of Agriculture veterinary services indicated that they have no concerns with the site of the completed feedlots and are satisfied with the current capacity – and holding capacity of the feedlots as it is within the acceptable limits of the South African Feedlot Association. The following recommendations were given regarding the feedlot operations:

- 1) Water should be available to each sheep unit without undue competition.
- 2) Provision of sufficient shade for all sheep in the feedlots. However, this is confirmed as mentioned within the s24G application.

The West Coast District Environmental Health Authority provided the following comments in relation to the application:

- 1) No water sources to be polluted by any runoff water
- 2) Manure should be handled in an acceptable matter and not cause any health risks
- 3) Waste control and Pest control should be adhered to strictly according to the EMPr
- 4) No slaughtering of animals should be allowed on site.

If any health nuisances arise, their Council will lay down additional measures to address these nuisances.

The competent authority is satisfied that all the concerns raised by I&APs were responded to and adequately addressed during the public participation process. Specific management and mitigation measures have been considered in this Environmental Authorisation and in the EMPr to adequately address the concerns raised.

The competent authority concurs with the EAP's responses to the issues raised during the public participation process and has included appropriate conditions in this Environmental Authorisation and in the EMPr.

## **2. Alternatives**

### 2.1 Technology/Location/Site/Activity Alternatives

#### Alternative 1 (Herewith authorized)

This entails the approval of the facility as it is currently constructed in accordance with the current layout plan and EMPr requirements. The feedlots were constructed on already

disturbed land previously used for pivot circular irrigation potato cultivation. As such, the site was completely transformed prior to commencement of the clearing activities. Based on the above, maintaining the feedlot structures would be the desired alternative as it meets the holder's usage requirements from a socio-economic perspective, while having a very low, limited impact on the receiving environment.

#### Alternative 2

No site alternatives were considered as Portion of Farm 230, Wagendrift, Clanwilliam is owned by the holder. Additionally, no layout alternatives were considered as the current layout had already been completed. No significant negative impacts has been identified regarding the existing alternative.

#### 2.2 The option of not implementing or continuing with the activity ("No-Go" Alternative)

The "no-go" alternative entails the removal of the feedlot development and returning the land to the status quo. The unlawful activity has already occurred and therefore the no-go alternative would not be preferred. Additionally, since the site has been transformed by agricultural and associated activities rehabilitation of the site is not deemed feasible.

### **3. Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Mitigation Measures**

In reaching its decision, the competent authority, considered the following in respect of the EIA and mitigation measures:

#### 3.1. Activity Need and Desirability

the assessment has concluded that the activity will not result in any significant negative impacts and will contribute positively to the socio-economic environment of the area as well as provide job opportunities for local employment. The Cederberg Spatial Development Framework (2017 – 2020) ("SDF") states that "*Cederberg and the burning need in terms of socio-economic development, the challenge remains to gear the economy and associated municipal and provincial strategies to target the primary sector activity of agriculture and its connected value chains*". Agri-industrial activities are considered a connected value chain of Agriculture therefore, the commenced activity and proposed development is considered in line with the SDF of the local municipality.

### 3.2. Waste and Pollution Impacts

The activity will not give rise to any pollution and all waste will be managed in accordance with the EMPr. The Western Cape Department of Agriculture, Veterinary Services indicated that they have no concerns with the site of the completed feedlots from a management and operation perspective. The West Coast District Environmental Health is satisfied that nuisance and vector concerns are adequately addressed in the EMPr. No significant waste and pollution aspects have therefore been identified.

### 3.3. Biodiversity Impacts

The activity is agricultural in nature and is therefore in keeping with the surrounding land use. It was previously used pivot circular irrigation for potato cultivation; therefore, the site was completely transformed due to agricultural practices. Historically, the site would have consisted of Lambert's Bay Strandveld which has a Least Concern (LC) Threat Status according to the National Vegetation Map (2018).

### 3.4. Visual / Sense of Place

The activity is in keeping with the surrounding land use. The development is agricultural in nature and is located on a farm with a surrounding agricultural landscape.

## 4. **NEMA Principles**

The National Environmental Management Principles (set out in section 2 of the NEMA), which apply to the actions of all organs of state, serve as guidelines by reference to which any organ of state must exercise any function when taking any decision, and which must guide the interpretation, administration and implementation of any other law concerned with the protection or management of the environment), *inter alia*, provides for:

- the effects of decisions on all aspects of the environment to be taken into account;
- the consideration, assessment and evaluation of the social, economic and environmental impacts of activities (disadvantages and benefits), and for decisions to be appropriate in the light of such consideration and assessment;
- the co-ordination and harmonisation of policies, legislation and actions relating to the environment;
- the resolving of actual or potential conflicts of interest between organs of state through conflict resolution procedures; and

- the selection of the best practicable environmental option.

In view of the above, the NEMA principles, compliance with the conditions stipulated in this Environmental Authorisation, and compliance with the EMPr, the competent authority is satisfied that the listed activities will not conflict with the general objectives of integrated environmental management stipulated in Chapter 5 of the NEMA and that any potentially detrimental environmental impacts resulting from the listed activities can be mitigated to acceptable levels.

-----END-----