



**Western Cape
Government**

Environmental Affairs and
Development Planning

**DIRECTORATE: DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT
REGION 1**

EIA REFERENCE NUMBER: 16/3/3/1/F5/5/2057/18
NEAS REFERENCE: WCP/EIA/0000506/2018
ENQUIRIES: AYESHA HAMDULAY
DATE OF ISSUE: 2019 -07- 19

The Board of Directors
Success Ventures (Pty) Ltd.
P O Box 2092
WINDMEUL
7630

Attention: Mr Heinrich Koen

Tel.: (021) 869 8294
Fax: (021) 869 8628

Dear Sir

APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION IN TERMS OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, 1998 (ACT NO. 107 OF 1998) AND THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT ("EIA") REGULATIONS, 2014 (AS AMENDED): THE PROPOSED EXPANSION OF AN EXISTING CHICKEN HOUSING FACILITY ON PORTION 3 OF THE FARM OLIPHANTSFONTYN NO. 461, DARLING

1. With reference to the above application, this Department hereby notifies you of its decision to **grant** Environmental Authorisation, attached herewith, together with the reasons for the decision.
2. In terms of Regulation 4 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), you are instructed to ensure, within 14 days of the date of the Environmental Authorisation, that all registered Interested and Affected Parties ("I&APs") are provided with access to and reasons for the decision, and that all registered I&APs are notified of their right to appeal.
3. Your attention is drawn to Chapter 2 of the Appeal Regulations, 2014 (as amended), which prescribes the appeal procedure to be followed. This procedure is summarized in the attached Environmental Authorisation.

Yours faithfully


MR ZAHIR TOEFY

DIRECTOR: DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT (REGION 1)

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

Copied to: Ms Helene Botha (EAP: PBPS) Fax: (086) 672 1916
Mr Leon Fourie (Swartland Municipality) Fax: (022) 487 9440

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Tel.: +27 21 483 0756 Fax: +27 21 483 4372
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ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION

APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION IN TERMS OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, 1998 (ACT NO. 107 OF 1998) AND THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS, 2014 (AS AMENDED): THE PROPOSED EXPANSION OF AN EXISTING CHICKEN HOUSING FACILITY ON PORTION 3 OF THE FARM OLIPHANTSFONTYN NO. 461, DARLING

With reference to your application for the abovementioned, find below the outcome with respect to this application.

DECISION

By virtue of the powers conferred on it by the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) ("NEMA") and the Environmental Impact Assessment ("EIA") Regulations, 2014 (as amended), the Competent Authority herewith **grants Environmental Authorisation** to the applicant to undertake the listed activities specified in section B below with respect to the preferred alternative, described in the Basic Assessment Report ("BAR") received by the Competent Authority on 29 March 2019.

The applicant for this Environmental Authorisation is required to comply with the conditions set out in section E below.

A. DETAILS OF THE APPLICANT FOR THIS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION

Success Ventures (Pty) Ltd.

C/O Mr H. Koen

P O Box X2092

WINDMEUL

7630

Tel.: (021) 869 8294

Fax: (021) 869 8628

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

B. LIST OF ACTIVITIES AUTHORISED

Listed Activities	Activity/Project Description
<p>Government Notice No. R.983 (as amended):</p> <p>Activity number: 27</p> <p>Activity Description:</p> <p><i>"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></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>(i) the undertaking of a linear activity; or</i> <i>(ii) maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan."</i> 	<p>The clearance of more than 1ha of indigenous vegetation for the expansion of an existing chicken housing facility by four chicken houses, each accommodating approximately 40 000 chickens, for the purposes of commercial egg laying on Portion 3 of the Farm Oliphantsfontyn No. 461, Darling.</p>
<p>Government Notice No. R.983 (as amended):</p> <p>Activity number: 40</p> <p>Activity Description:</p> <p><i>"The expansion and related operation of facilities for the concentration of poultry, excluding chicks younger than 20 days, where the capacity of the facility will be increased by—</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>(i) more than 1 000 poultry where the facility is situated within an urban area; or</i> <i>(ii) more than 5 000 poultry per facility situated outside an urban area."</i> 	<p>The expansion of an existing chicken housing facility by four chicken houses, each accommodating approximately 40 000 chickens, for the purposes of commercial egg laying on Portion 3 of the Farm Oliphantsfontyn No. 461, Darling.</p>
<p>Government Notice No. R.985 (as amended):</p> <p>Activity number: 4</p> <p>Activity Description:</p> <p><i>"The development of a road wider than 4 metres with a reserve less than 13,5 metres.</i></p> <p>i. Western Cape</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>i. Areas zoned for use as public open space or equivalent zoning;</i> <i>ii. Areas outside urban areas;</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>(aa) Areas containing indigenous vegetation;</i> <i>(bb) Areas on the estuary side of the development setback line or in an estuarine functional zone where no such setback line has been determined; or</i> <i>iii. Inside urban areas:</i> 	<p>The development of a road wider than 4 metres with a reserve less than 13,5 metres on Portion 3 of the Farm Oliphantsfontyn No. 461, Darling.</p>

<p>(aa) Areas zoned for conservation use; or</p> <p>(bb) Areas designated for conservation use in Spatial Development Frameworks adopted by the competent authority."</p>	
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The abovementioned list is hereinafter referred to as "**the listed activities**".

The holder is herein authorised to undertake the following alternative that includes the listed activities relating to the development:

The expansion of an existing chicken housing facility by four chicken houses, each accommodating approximately 40 000 chickens, for the purposes of commercial egg laying on Portion 3 of the Farm Oliphantsfontyn No. 461, Darling. The four chicken houses will accommodate a total of approximately 160 000 chickens with a development footprint of 22 800m². These chicken houses will be single-storey units with a roof ridge not exceeding 6.5m in height. A minimum spacing of 50m will be maintained between the proposed chicken houses.

A lined detention pond of approximately 5m³ will be constructed for the collection of wastewater. A new gravel road and access gate will be constructed to gain access to the site.

The expansion of the existing egg laying facility will require an additional maximum of 20 000 litres of water per day for approximately 160 000 chickens. The chicken houses will be cleaned by dry cleaning methods that include, *inter alia*, using brooms, dusters and/or vacuum cleaners. No liquid waste will be produced in the initial cleaning of the houses. Wastewater will be collected in a small lined evaporation pond of approximately 5m³ capacity, which will be lined to prevent seepage.

Chickens will be delivered to the farm when 17 weeks old and removed when 72 weeks old. It is only after another four (4) weeks that a new batch of 17 week old chickens will again be delivered to the farm. The increase in traffic on the R307 Regional Road will therefore be of low significance.

General domestic waste will be collected, sorted, recycled where possible and the rest of the waste taken to the Municipal landfill site. The existing electricity supply will be utilised.

C. SITE DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION

The listed activities will be undertaken on Portion 3 of the Farm Oliphantsfontyn No. 461, Darling.

The SG 21 digit code for the said land parcel is: C04600000000046100003

The geographic co-ordinates for the land parcel are given below:

Property	Latitude (S)	Longitude (E)
Portion 3 of the Farm Oliphantsfontyn No. 461, Darling.	33° 15' 43.64"	18° 28' 4.77"

Refer to Annexure 1: Locality Plan(s).

Refer to Annexure 2: Site Map(s).

The above property is hereinafter referred to as "**the site**".

D. DETAILS OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER

Pieter Badenhorst Professional Services CC
C/O Ms H. Botha
P O Box 1058
WELLINGTON
7654

Tel.: (021) 864 9901

Fax: (086) 672 1916

E. CONDITIONS OF AUTHORISATION

Scope of Authorisation

1. The holder is authorised to undertake the listed activities specified in Section B above in accordance with and restricted to the preferred alternative described in Section B above.
2. The holder must commence with the listed activities within the stipulated validity period which this Environmental Authorisation is granted for, or this Environmental Authorisation shall lapse and a new application for Environmental Authorisation must be submitted to the Competent Authority.
3. This Environmental Authorisation is granted for–
 - 3.1. A period of five (5) years, from the date of issue, during which period the holder must commence with the authorised listed activities; and
 - 3.2. A period of ten (10) years, from the date the holder commenced with the authorised listed activities, during which period the authorised listed activities for the development phase, must be concluded.
4. The listed activities that have been authorised must only be carried out on the site described in Section C above in terms of the approved Environmental Management Programme ("EMPr").
5. The holder shall be responsible for ensuring compliance with the conditions by any person acting on his behalf, including an implementing agent, sub-contractor, employee or any person rendering a service to the holder.
6. Any changes to, or deviations from the scope of the alternative described in section B above must be approved, in writing, by the Competent Authority before such changes or deviations may be implemented. In assessing whether or not to grant such approval, the Competent Authority may request information in order 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.

Written Notice to the Competent Authority

7. A written notice of seven (7) calendar days must be given to the Competent Authority before construction work can be commenced with.
 - 7.1. The notice must make clear reference to the site details and EIA Reference number given above.

- 7.2. The notice must include proof of compliance with the following conditions described herein:

Conditions: 8, 9, 13 and 22

Notification of Environmental Authorisation and Administration of Appeal

8. The holder must in writing, within fourteen (14) calendar days of the date of this decision-
- 8.1. notify all registered Interested and Affected Parties ("I&APs") of –
 - 8.1.1. the decision reached on the application;
 - 8.1.2. the reasons for the decision as included in Annexure 3;
 - 8.1.3. the date of the decision; and
 - 8.1.4. the date when the decision was issued.
 - 8.2. 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 Appeal Regulations, 2014 (as amended) detailed in Section G below;
 - 8.3. draw the attention of all registered I&APs to the manner in which they may access the decision;
 - 8.4. provide the registered I&APs with the:
 - 8.4.1. name of the holder (entity) of this Environmental Authorisation,
 - 8.4.2. name of the responsible person for this Environmental Authorisation,
 - 8.4.3. postal address of the holder,
 - 8.4.4. telephone and fax details of the holder,
 - 8.4.5. e-mail address, if any, of the holder,
 - 8.4.6. 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 Appeals Regulations, 2014 (as amended).

Commencement

9. The listed activities, including site preparation, must not be commenced with within twenty (20) calendar days from the date the applicant notified the registered I&APs of this decision.
10. 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.

Management of Activities

11. The EMPr (submitted with the BAR to this Department on 29 March 2019) is hereby approved and must be implemented.
12. The EMPr must be included in all contract documentation for all phases of implementation.

Monitoring

13. The holder must appoint a suitably experienced Environmental Control Officer ("ECO") before the listed activities can be commenced with, to ensure compliance with the EMPr and the conditions contained herein.

14. A copy of the Environmental Authorisation, EMPr, ECO reports, audit reports and compliance monitoring reports must be kept at the contractor's site office, and must be made available to any authorised official representing the Competent Authority on request.
15. Access to the site referred to in Section C must be granted, and the environmental reports mentioned above must be produced, to any authorised official representing the Competent Authority who requests to see the reports for the purposes of assessing and/or auditing compliance with the conditions contained herein.

Auditing

16. In terms of Regulation 34 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), the holder of this Environmental Authorisation must, for the period during which this Environmental Authorisation and EMPr remains valid, conduct environmental audits. The audit reports must be prepared by an independent person and must contain all the information required in Appendix 7 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended).

In addition to the above, the environmental audit report, must –

- 16.1. provide verifiable findings, in a structured and systematic manner, on–
 - 16.1.1. level of compliance with the conditions of the Environmental Authorisation and the EMPr and whether this is sufficient or not; and
 - 16.1.2. the extent to which the avoidance, management and mitigation measures provided for in the EMPr achieve the objectives and outcomes of the EMPr and highlight whether this is sufficient or not;
- 16.2. identify and assess any new impacts and risks as a result of undertaking the activity;
- 16.3. evaluate the effectiveness of the EMPr;
- 16.4. identify shortcomings in the EMPr;
- 16.5. identify the need for any changes to the avoidance, management and mitigation measures provided for in the EMPr;
- 16.6. indicate the date on which the construction work was commenced with and completed or in the case where the authorised development is incomplete, the progress of the authorised development and rehabilitation;
- 16.7. include a photographic record of the site applicable to the audit; and
- 16.8. be informed by the ECO reports.

The first environmental audit must be undertaken within three (3) months of the authorised listed activities being commenced with. Subsequent environmental audits must be undertaken biannually during the construction phase of the authorised development and once every five (5) years during the operational phase of the authorised development. The environmental audit report must be submitted to the Competent Authority within one calendar month of the environmental audit being undertaken.

The holder must, within seven (7) calendar days of the submission of the audit report to the Competent Authority, notify all registered I&APs of the submission and make the audit report available to any registered I&AP on request.

Specific Conditions

17. Should any heritage remains be exposed during excavations or any other actions on the site, this 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 disturbed further 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 artifacts 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.

18. A qualified archaeologist and/or paleontologist 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.
19. An integrated waste management approach, which is based on waste minimisation and incorporates reduction, recycling, re-use and disposal, where appropriate, must be employed.
20. All chicken mortalities must be disposed of in accordance with the relevant legislation at an appropriate disposal facility.
21. The holder of the Environmental Authorisation must ensure that adequate training is provided in the appropriate language to all on-site personnel, to help ensure that the conditions of the Environmental Authorisation are complied with and the EMPr requirements are met.
22. The exact boundary of the development footprint must be clearly demarcated before the authorised listed activities can be commenced with. All construction work must, as far as possible, be limited to within the authorised development footprint.
23. Prior to departure/closure from the site, the contractor must ensure that all rubble, debris, cement deposits/residue, effluent, wash-off, building materials, builder's infrastructure, signage, machinery etc., associated with the development proposal and contractors' camp site are removed and the affected areas are cleaned appropriately.

F. 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 of this Environmental Authorisation or EMPr may render the holder liable for criminal prosecution.
3. If the holder does not commence with the listed activities within the period referred to in Condition 2, this Environmental Authorisation shall lapse, and a new application for Environmental Authorisation must be submitted to the Competent Authority. If the holder wishes to extend the validity period of the Environmental Authorisation, an application for amendment in this regard should be made to the Competent Authority.
4. An application for amendment of the Environmental Authorisation must be submitted 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 (as amended) must be submitted.

5. Please note that an amendment is not required for a change in the contact details of the holder. In this case, the Competent Authority must only be notified of such changes.
6. The manner and frequency for updating the EMPr is as follows:
 - 6.1. Amendments to the EMPr must be made in accordance with Regulations 35 to 37 of GN No. R.982 (as amended) or any relevant legislation that may be applicable at the time.

G. APPEALS

Appeals must comply with the provisions contained in the National Appeal Regulations, 2014 (as amended).

1. An appellant (if the holder of the decision) must, within twenty (20) calendar days from the date the notification of the decision was sent to the holder by the Competent Authority –
 - 1.1. Submit an appeal in accordance with Regulation 4 of the National Appeal Regulations, 2014 (as amended) to the Appeal Administrator; and
 - 1.2. Submit a copy of the appeal to any registered I&APs, any Organ of State with interest in the matter and the decision-maker, *i.e.*, the Competent Authority that issued the decision. -
2. An appellant (if NOT the holder of the decision) must, within twenty (20) calendar days from the date the holder of the decision sent notification of the decision to the registered I&APs–
 - 2.1. Submit an appeal in accordance with Regulation 4 of the National Appeal Regulations, 2014 (as amended) to the Appeal Administrator; and
 - 2.2. Submit a copy of the appeal to the holder of the decision, any registered I&AP, any Organ of State with interest in the matter and the decision-maker, *i.e.*, the Competent Authority that issued the decision.
3. The holder of the decision (if not the appellant), the decision-maker that issued the decision, the registered I&APs and the Organ of State must submit their responding statements, if any, to the Appeal Authority and the appellant within twenty (20) calendar days from the date of receipt of the appeal submission.
4. The appeal and the responding statement must be submitted to the address listed below:

By post: Western Cape Ministry of Local Government, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning
Private Bag X9186
CAPE TOWN
8000

By facsimile: (021) 483 4174; or
By hand: Attention: Mr Jaap de Villiers (Tel.: 021 483 3721)
Room 809, 08th Floor Utilitas Building, 01 Dorp Street, Cape Town, 8001

Note: For purposes of electronic database management, you are requested to submit electronic copies (Microsoft Word format) of the appeal, responding statement and any supporting documents to the Appeal Authority to the address listed above and/or via e-mail.

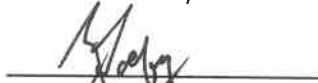
5. A prescribed appeal form as well as assistance regarding the appeal processes is obtainable from the Appeal Authority at: Tel.: (021) 483 3721, E-mail: Jaap.DeVilliers@westerncape.gov.za or URL: <http://www.westerncape.gov.za/eadp>.

H. DISCLAIMER

The Western Cape Government, the Local Authority, committees or any other public authority or organisation 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 successor in any instance where development or subsequent operation 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.

Your interest in the future of our environment is greatly appreciated.

Yours faithfully



MR ZAAHIR TOEFY

DIRECTOR: DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT – REGION 1

DATE OF DECISION: 19/07/2019

Copied to: Ms Helene Botha

(EAP: PBPS)

Fax: (086) 672 1916

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY:

EIA REFERENCE NUMBER:

16/3/3/1/F5/5/2057/18

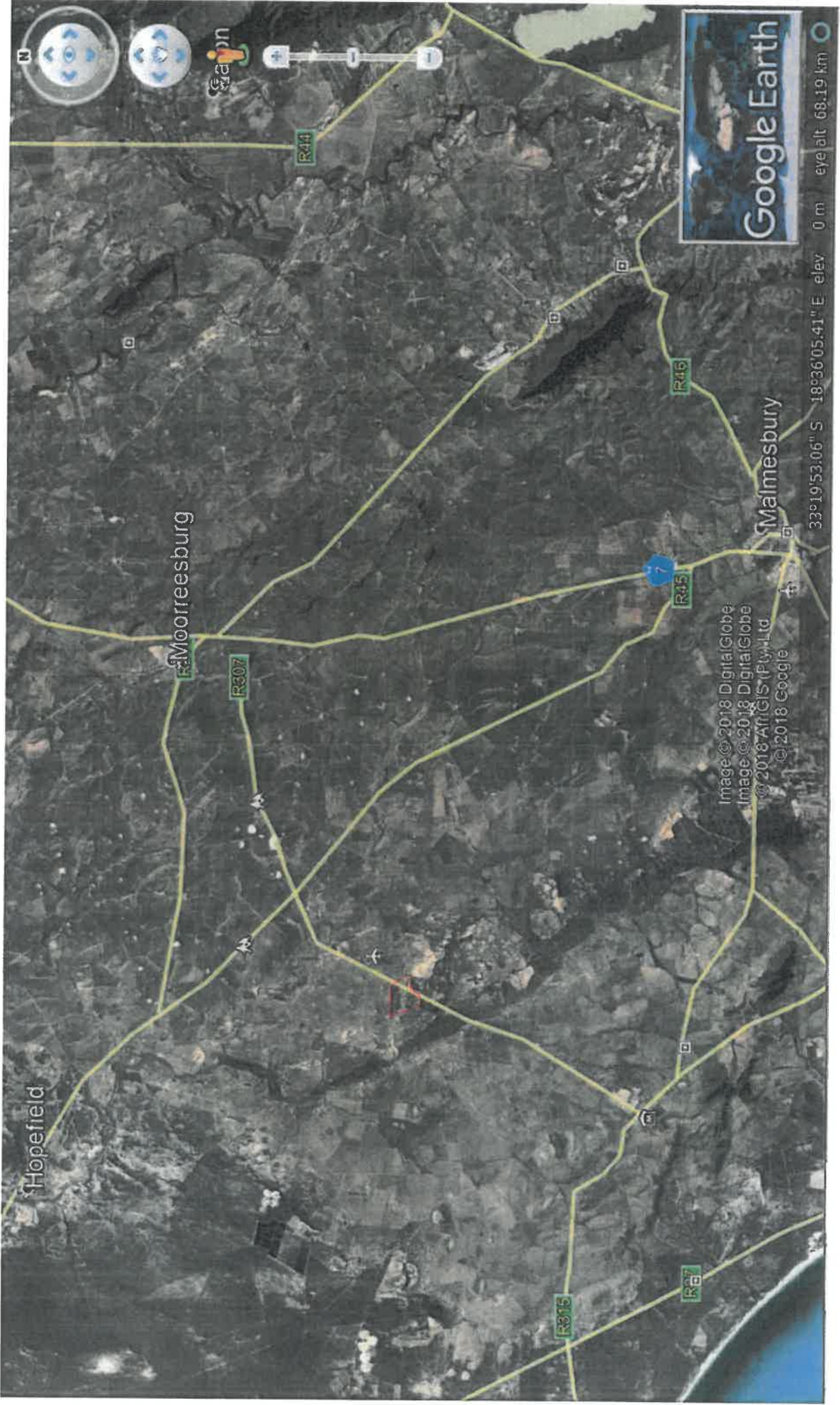
NEAS EIA REFERENCE NUMBER:

WCP/EIA/0000506/2018

ANNEXURE 1: LOCALITY PLAN

APPENDIX A: LOCALITY MAP

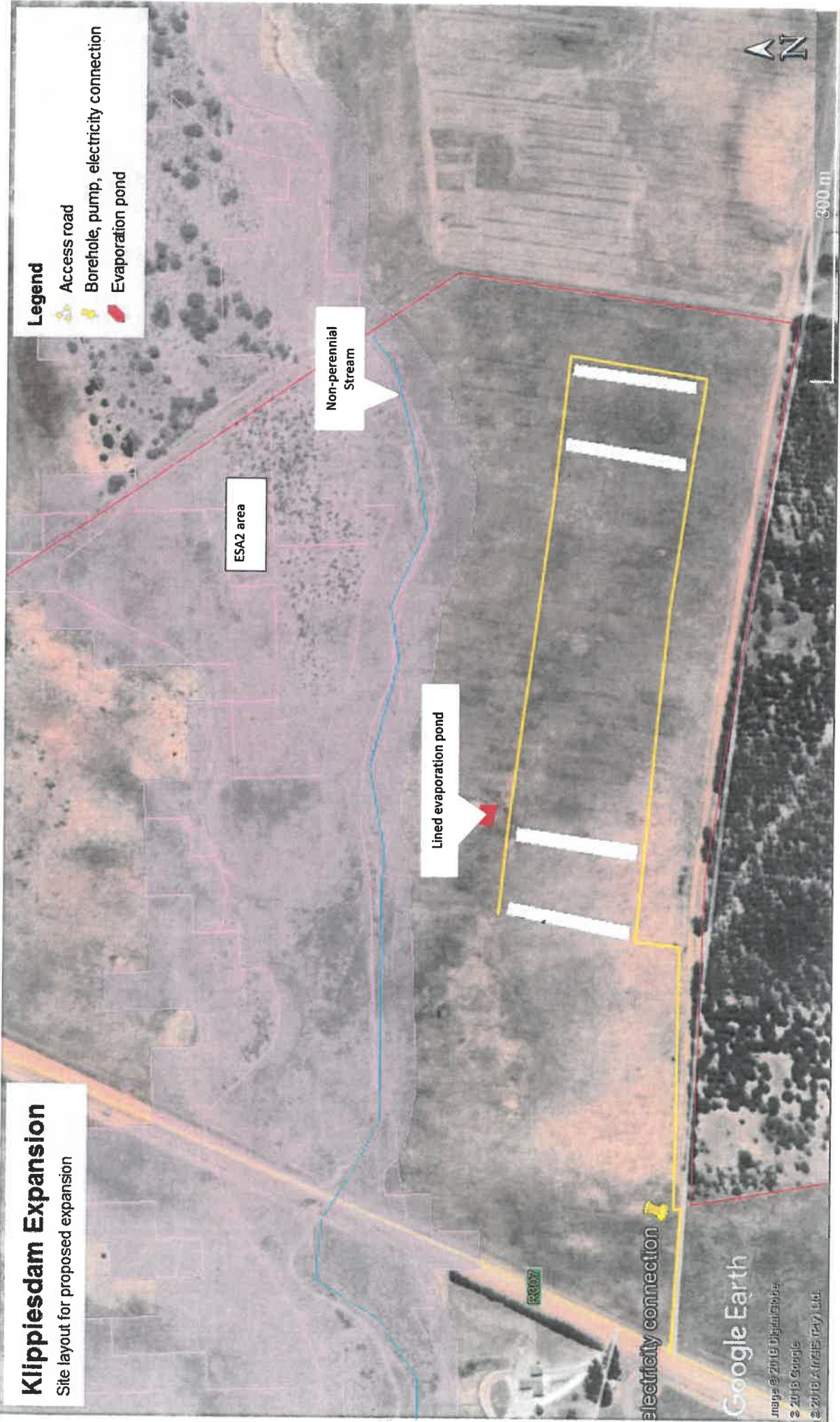
Appendix A1: Locality of Proposed site



ANNEXURE 2: SITE MAP

Klippiesdam Expansion

Site layout for proposed expansion



ANNEXURE 3: REASONS FOR THE DECISION

In reaching its decision, the Competent Authority considered, *inter alia*, the following:

- a) The information contained in the Application Form received by the Competent Authority on 23 October 2018, and the EMPr submitted together with the BAR to the Competent Authority on 29 March 2019;
- b) Relevant information contained in the Departmental information base, including the Guidelines on Public Participation, Alternatives (dated March 2013);
- c) The objectives and requirements of relevant legislation, policies and guidelines, including section 2 of the NEMA;
- d) The comments received from I&APs and responses to these, included in the BAR;
- e) The balancing of negative and positive impacts and proposed mitigation measures; and
- f) No site visits were conducted. The Competent Authority had sufficient information before it to make an informed decision without conducting a site visit.

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 that were considered to be the most significant for the decision is set out below.

1. Public Participation

The Public Participation Process ("PPP") included:

- The identification of and engagement with I&APs;
- Fixing a notice board at the site where the listed activities are to be undertaken and next to the R307 Regional Road on 06 November 2018;
- Placing an advertisement in the 'Swartland Gazette' on 06 November 2018 to inform potential I&APs of the opportunity to register as I&APs;
- Giving written notice to the owners and occupiers of land adjacent to the site where the listed activities are to be undertaken, the municipality, and the various Organs of State having jurisdiction in respect of any aspect of the listed activities;
- Making the consultation BAR available to I&APs, including Organs of State and State Departments for public review and comment from 06 November 2018 to 06 December 2018;
- Making the revised consultation BAR available to all registered I&APs for public review and comment from 15 February 2019 to 18 March 2019.

The EAP responded to the comments made on the BAR by, *inter alia*, making reference to relevant provisions in the EMPr, specialist recommendations contained in the specialist reports appended to the BAR and the mitigation hierarchy used to address potential impacts.

Where impacts could not altogether be avoided, they will be mitigated to acceptable levels. The PPP met the minimum legal requirements.

2. Alternatives

The comment from CapeNature dated 03 December 2018, required the investigation and assessment of other site alternatives outside of this sensitive area and thus informed the moving of the site to an area outside of the aquatic Ecological Support Area 2 ("ESA") West Coast Alluvium Renosterveld channeled valley bottom wetland and locates the development proposal on land that has been previously cultivated.

Site Alternative A read together with the Preferred Alternative

This site is the preferred alternative for the following reasons:

- The site was previously disturbed by agricultural activities;
- Connection to water and electricity services is situated nearby, requiring minimal expansion of existing infrastructure to utilise the services;
- The site is situated more than 32m from a watercourse;
- The site is situated near the existing egg laying facilities and the storage warehouse from where the eggs are transported off the site;
- The site is too small for the planting of crops and therefore can only be utilised for other more concentrated agricultural activities; and
- The site is owned by the applicant.

Preferred Alternative (Herewith Authorised)

The expansion of an existing chicken housing facility by four chicken houses, each accommodating approximately 40 000 chickens, for the purposes of commercial egg laying on Portion 3 of the Farm Oliphantsfontyn No. 461, Darling. The four chicken houses will accommodate a total of approximately 160 000 chickens with a development footprint of 22 800m². These chicken houses will be single-storey units with a roof ridge not exceeding 6.5m in height. A minimum spacing of 50m will be maintained between the proposed chicken houses.

A lined detention pond of approximately 5m³ will be constructed for the collection of wastewater. A new gravel road and access gate will be constructed to gain access to the site.

The expansion of the existing egg laying facility will require an additional maximum of 20 000 litres of water per day for approximately 160 000 chickens. The chicken houses will be cleaned by dry cleaning methods that include, *inter alia*, using brooms, dusters and/or vacuum cleaners. No liquid waste will be produced in the initial cleaning of the houses. Wastewater will be collected in a small lined evaporation pond of approximately 5m³ capacity, which will be lined to prevent seepage.

Chickens will be delivered to the farm when 17 weeks old and removed when 72 weeks old. It is only after another four (4) weeks that a new batch of 17 week old chickens will again be delivered to the farm. The increase in traffic on the R307 Regional Road will therefore be of low significance.

General domestic waste will be collected, sorted, recycled where possible and the rest of the waste taken to the Municipal landfill site. The existing electricity supply will be utilised.

Activity Alternative

The unutilised areas on site alternatives 1 and 2 are not feasible for crop cultivation due to the following:

- Commercial egg laying facilities have strict rules and regulations which site alternatives 1 and 2 will not meet; and
- The above sites are too small for a viable profit to be made from crop cultivation activities alone and additional areas would need to be added to the cultivated areas to make cultivation commercially viable for the applicant.

'No-Go' Alternative

If the 'No-Go' Alternative is implemented, the current capacity of commercial egg production at the chicken farm will not be increased. No temporary job creation associated with the development phase of the proposed project would materialise or potential permanent job creation, and no new positive socio-economic spin-offs would arise. In addition there would be no

positive impact on food production and associated food security in the local and regional context. The option of not expanding the poultry farm would result in existing service infrastructure not being fully utilised. In addition, the location of the proposed expansion is on disturbed land, and on land already zoned for agriculture. The opportunities associated with maximising an existing farm's production capacity would be lost. The 'No-Go' alternative is therefore undesirable.

3. Impact Assessment and Mitigation Measures

3.1 Need and Desirability

The site is located on a farm zoned Agriculture. The proposed development will not compromise the integrity of the Local Authority's Integrated Development Plan ("IDP") and Spatial Development Framework ("SDF"). The development will help to meet the local and regional needs through providing job opportunities and increased food production through the expansion of the commercial egg laying facilities. The visual aspect and sense of place associated with the proposed expansion is in line with the surroundings of the existing agricultural activities on the site.

The development will cause low negative impacts on natural vegetation and aquatic ecosystems, as the expansion will be constructed on areas that were previously disturbed. The development proposal is consistent with the existing poultry operation on the farm.

3.2 Dust and Noise Impacts

The impact of dust generated during the development phase will be mitigated by the implementation of the conditions of this Environmental Authorisation and EMPr.

All sound generated during the development phase of the proposed development will comply with the relevant SANS codes and standards. Furthermore, noise impacts will be mitigated by the implementation of the conditions of this Environmental Authorisation and EMPr.

3.3 Socio-Economic Impacts

The development proposal will result in temporary employment opportunities, some permanent jobs and opportunities for skills acquisition during the development phase. In addition, economic benefits locally, regionally and for the holder of this Environmental authorisation, will be realised.

The development will result in both negative and positive impacts.

Negative impacts include:

- Some loss of indigenous vegetation as a result the proposed expansion;
- Some visual, noise and dust pollution during the development phase; and

Positive impacts include:

- The proposed development will allow for increased food production;
- The proposed development will have economic benefits for the general area;
- The proposed development will assist in meeting the local and regional demand for eggs; and
- The proposed development will create some employment opportunities during the development and operational phases.

4. National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) 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*, provide 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.

5. Conclusion

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 proposed 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-----