
Company: Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Land & Environmental Affairs (DARDLEA)

Attention: Ms. Sindisiwe Mbuyane

From: Dr. H len Prinsloo

Email: mbuyanesb@mpg.gov.za

Date: 1 May 2024

Telephone: (013) 004 0768

Email: helen@bucandi.co.za

Company ref:

Telephone: 076 682-4369

Dept. ref: 1/3/1/16/1 G-320

Fax: 086 551-1894

Subject: FBAR cover letter

Pages: 1

Dear Ms. Mbuyane

Please find attached a copy of the Final Basic Assessment Report for the proposed construction of 12 environmentally controlled poultry houses on Portion 17 of Farm Dassieklip 109 HS, near Volksrust within Dr Pixley Ka Isaka Seme Local Municipality area. Comments from DARDLEA were received on 20 March 2024 and were incorporated as follows (numbers below match the numbers indicated on the comments from DARDLEA).


- 1) The FBAR attached is compiled according to Appendix a of EIA Regulations of 2014.
- 2) See proof of consultation with Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD) attached in Appendix D3.
- 3) The proposed site is located on an area that consists of agricultural fields that is ploughed annually for crop cultivation. The lands have been ploughed every year for at least the last 30 years. No artefacts of archaeological or cultural significance have been unearthed by the ploughing of the fields. Excavation for earthworks and construction will not be deeper than the ploughing that has already been done at the site and it is therefore highly unlikely that any artefacts will be present at the site. However, in the event that any artefact that might be of cultural or archaeological significance is uncovered, construction will cease immediately and a Heritage Specialist will be contacted for advice.
- 4) All the associated components are considered Section 7.3 (Waste generation, liquid effluent, atmospheric emissions, noise, water use and energy efficiency) and the associated impacts are included in the Impact Assessment in Section 8.
- 5) There will be no development of infrastructure or associated components that are not included in this FBAR and the associated Impact Assessment.
- 6) A water balance has been included in Section 7.3.5.
- 7) Agreements regarding the removal of manure and mortalities are included in Appendix F5
- 8) The location and direction of storm water structures were included in the Site Plan in Appendix C. As the houses are closed, there is no risk of storm water being contaminated by manure or other aspects. Storm water will be directed along the direction of natural flow towards the western site boundary where clean water will leave the site. No attenuation ponds for storm water are planned.

9) A detailed layout plan including the site boundary and all sensitive areas are included in Appendix A. Storm water will be directed along the direction of natural flow towards the western site boundary (see Appendix C) where clean water will leave the site. No attenuation ponds for storm water are planned.

10) All the correspondence with the I&APs, including Gert Sibande District Municipality, is included in Appendix D.

11) Proof of circulation of the DBAR is included in Appendix D3.

Best regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Prinsloo', with a stylized flourish above the first part of the name.

Dr. H len Prinsloo

Ecologist and GIS Technician

Final Basic Assessment Report

for

HODSDON ESTATE

REF No: 1/3/1/16/1 G-320

Prepared by:

Bucandi Environmental Solutions



Project Manager: Dr H len Prinsloo (D. Tech)
EAPASA 2022/5586
(Pr.Sci.Nat.) Reg. No. 400108/11 (SACNASP)

February 2024

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1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

1.1 Background

Hodsdon Estate is planning the construction of 12 environmentally controlled poultry houses on Portion 17 of the farm Dassiesklip 109 HS situated in Dr Pixley Ka Seme Local Municipality within Gert Sibande District Municipality. The need for a Basic Assessment is triggered by Listing 1: (ACTIVITY NO. 5) The development and related operation of facilities or infrastructure for the concentration of (ii) more than 5 000 poultry per facility situated outside an urban area, excluding chicks younger than 20 days (iv) more than 25 000 chicks younger than 20 days per facility situated outside an urban area. (ACTIVITY NO. 28) Residential, mixed, retail, commercial, industrial or institutional developments where such land was used for agriculture, game farming, equestrian purposes or afforestation on or after 01 April 1998 and where such development: (ii) will occur outside an urban area, where the total land to be developed is bigger than 1 hectare.

1.2 Details of the project proponent

Company name: Hodsdon Estate
Physical address: Farm Poortjie 2470, Volksrust, 2470
Postal address: P O Box 320, Volksrust, 2470
Contact person: Mr. Charles Hodsdon
Telephone number: 082 550 1680
Email address: hodsdonoffice@gmail.com

1.3 Details of Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP)

Company name: Bucandi Environmental Solutions
Reg. No: 2009/087537/23
Physical address: 13 Krom Street
Potchefstroom
2531
Postal address: P. O. Box 317
Viljoenskroon
9520

Project coordinator: Dr H  len Prinsloo

Telephone number: 076 682 4369

Email address: helen@bucandi.co.za

Qualification: D.Tech (Conservation Management)

Experience: 15 years

Affiliation: SACNASP *Pri.Sci. Nat* 400108/11

Assistant: Marika Smook

Telephone number: 076 422 3484

Email address: info@bucandi.co.za

Please see Appendix G for a copy of the Curriculum Vitae for the EAP.

1.4 Details of specialists

No specialists have been used for this project at this time.

2. LOCATION OF PROPOSED ACTIVITY

The study area is located 14 km northwest of Volksrust in the Mpumalanga Province within the Dr Pixley Ka Isaka Seme Local Municipality and Gert Sibande District Municipality. (Appendix A). More specifically it is located on Portion 17 of the farm Dassiesklip 109 HS, at 27°15'58.79" S; 29°47'56.97" E (Appendix A). The R23 runs within 400 m of the site with a farm road providing access to the site. See Appendix A for the locality map and layout plans.

21-digit Surveyor General code	T0HR00000000010900017
Physical address and farm name	Portion 17 of the farm Dassiesklip 109 HS
GPS coordinates	27°15'58.79" S; 29°47'56.97" E

3. SCOPE OF ACTIVITY

3.1 Listed activities triggered

The proposed activity triggers the following Listed Activities in terms of **Listing Notice 1 of Government Notice No. R327** published in Government Gazette No. 40772 of **7 April 2017** under the National Environmental Management Act, Act 107 of 1998:

Listing 1:

(ACTIVITY NO. 5) The development and related operation of facilities or infrastructure for the concentration of (ii) more than 5 000 poultry per facility situated outside an urban area, excluding chicks younger than 20 days and (iv) more than 25 000 chicks younger than 20 days per facility situated outside an urban area.

(ACTIVITY NO. 28) Residential, mixed, retail, commercial, industrial or institutional development where such land was used for agriculture, game farming, equestrian purposes or afforestation on or after 01 April 1998 and where such development (ii) will occur outside an urban area, where the total land to be developed is bigger than 1 hectare.

3.2 Description of activity

The activity will entail the construction of 12 environmentally controlled poultry houses (16.5 m x 135 m each). Each house will have the capacity for 50 000 chickens. The completed site will have the capacity to house up to 600 000 chickens.

The project will entail the following:

- The clearance of 5.7 ha of agricultural land (partially *Eragrostis curvula* and partially maize field), located in an area that is classified as Heavily modified area. (assessed as activity 1 in Section 8 below).
- Earthworks on 5.7 ha to prepare for 12 poultry houses (assessed as activity 2 in Section 8 below).
- Construction of 12 environmentally controlled poultry houses (16.5 m x 135 m) with capacity for 50 000 birds per house, totalling 600 000 birds (assessed as activity 3 in Section 8 below).
- A silo and water tank will be erected next to each house.
- Powerlines will be connected to each house from new solar panels that will be placed on the roofs of the houses.
- Pipelines will be connected to each house from a new borehole.
- The site will be fenced off with a 2.1 m high electric fence.

3.3 Relevant legislation

Title of legislation, policy or guideline: Administering authority: Date:

National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998.	Mpumalanga Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs	1998
Listing 1 of regulation 327 promulgated under Chapter 5 of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA, Act 107 of 1998) in Government Gazette 40772. Listed activity 5(ii), (iv) & 28(ii)		1998
National Water Act, Act No. 36 of 1998.	Department of Water Affairs	1998
Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act, Act No. 43 of 1983	Mpumalanga Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs	1983
Air Quality Act, Act No. 39 of 2004.	Gert Sibande District Municipality	2004
Reg. 983 published on 22 November 2013 in GN 37054		2013

Heritage Act, Act No 25 of 1999.	South African Heritage Resources Act	1999
Meat Safety Act, Act 40 of 2000	Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	2000
National Environmental Management: Waste Act, Act No. 59 of 2008	Department of Economic Development, Environment, Conservation and Tourism	2008
Listed Activities Reg. 921 published on 29 November 2013 in GN 37083		
Occupational Health and Safety Act, Act 85 of 1993	Department of Labour	1993
Noise regulation, 2003	Department of Health and Safety	2003
Environmental regulations for workplaces, 1987	Department of Labour	1987
Facility regulations, 1990	Department of Labour	1990
General Health and Safety Regulations, 1986	Department of Labour	1986
Electrical Installation Regulations, 2009.	Department of Labour	2009
Electrical Machinery Regulations, 1988.	Department of Labour	1988
Construction Regulations, 2014	Department of Labour	2014

4. NEED AND DESIRABILITY OF THE PROJECT

4.1 Need for operation of the facility

The facility will provide increased food availability; in particular poultry products. Poultry is highly desirable as a food item across all income groups in South Africa. International production of poultry has increased significantly over the past few years in line with increased consumer demands for production of poultry and expectations are that consumer demand will continue to increase. Due to overcrowding of present facilities, lack of additional facilities and therefore the potential for increased biological risk, suppliers have embarked on a process of establishing new facilities in order to overcome these problems and ensure the long-term sustainability and viability of the industry. The socio-economic value of the project

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will indirectly have a positive impact on the immediate area as well as cater for the increasing demand for poultry in the Mpumalanga Province and nationally. At least 25 temporary employment opportunities will be created during the development and construction phase. At least 12 additional people will be permanently employed during the operational phase of the activity. Contractors are employed during the construction phase and additional employment opportunities are therefore created.

4.2 Preferred location

The R23 runs within 400 m of the site with a farm road providing access to the site. The preferred site is located on agricultural land. The slope on the site is 1:36 meaning that the site is largely flat (see complete site description in Section 5.1).

5. PROJECT ALTERNATIVES

5.1 Property or location alternatives

See Appendix B for site photographs and Appendix C for the site plans.

Site alternative 1 (preferred site)

The preferred site is located on 5.7 ha of agricultural land that is currently used for crop cultivation and planted pasture. It is classified as “Heavily modified” in terms of the Mpumalanga Biodiversity Sector Plan of 2013. The R23 runs within 400 m of the site with a farm road providing access to the site. S1 is flat (slope = 1:36) and the costs and impacts of earthworks before construction will be minimal. A new Eskom point and boreholes will be connected to the proposed poultry houses. The site is located relatively high and stays dry year-round.

5.2 Activity alternatives

Preferred activity

Twelve environmentally controlled poultry houses (approximately 16.5 m x 135 m) will be constructed with a capacity for 50 000 birds per house. A water tank and a silo for food will be constructed next to each house with underground pipelines connecting the water tanks with the new boreholes. A 2.1m electric fence with an entry gate (with biosecurity control measures) will be constructed around the site. A biosecurity house will be erected containing an office as well as a bathroom and showers. Electricity lines will be connected to the water tanks and all the houses. Solar panels will be placed on the roofs of the poultry houses.

Activity alternative 2

The site lay-out will be exactly as for A1, but the chicken houses will be open and not environmentally controlled. The differences between closed houses (A1) and open houses (A2) are as follows:

	A1 – Environmentally controlled	A2 – Open
Isolation value (R)	12	1.5
Heat capacity	1 100kW	1 500kW

Chickens/m ²	14	13
Energy saving	20%	0%

No-go alternative

The site is currently used for cultivation of crops and planted pasture and will continue to be used as such if the proposed development does not go ahead.

5.3 Design or layout alternatives

Apart from the site alternatives, no design or layout alternatives are being considered.

5.4 Technology alternatives

No technology alternatives were considered for the proposed project.

5.5 Operational alternatives

No operational alternatives were considered for the proposed project.

5.6 The “no-go” activity alternative

The “no-go” alternative will entail using the land for cultivation of crops.

6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

Please see Appendix D1 for a copy of the newspaper notice that was placed in “Beeld” on 16 October 2023.

Please see Appendix D2 for a photo of the notices placed at the site.

Please see Appendix D3 for the notifications that were sent to all the neighbours as well as the Local and District Municipalities and Department of Water and Sanitation on 16 October 2023.

Please see Appendix D4 for the Comments and Responses Report.

A copy of the Draft BAR will be sent to all I&APs (Appendix D5).

7. ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES AND POSSIBLE IMPACTS

7.1 Geographical and Bio-physical environment

7.1.1 Gradient of the site

The proposed site is located between 1 665 mamsl and 1 680 mamsl with a slight slope towards the west (gradient = 1:36).

7.1.2 Soils

The farm is located on mostly landtype Ca2, with a small section of Fa24 along the northern boundary. The proposed site is located entirely on landtype Ca2, which is described below.

The soils associated with landtype Ca2 include the following:

Rock – 3.1%

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Stream beds – 1.5%

Soil type	Depth (mm)	% Occurrence	% Clay in A horizon	% Clay in B horizon
Mispah Ms10, Arrochar Cf12, Cranbrook Cf22, Williamson Gs16, Trevanian Gs17	100 - 450	13.5	15 - 25	40 - 55
Hutton Hu16, Msinga Hu26	100 - 450	3.7	15 - 25	15 - 25
Bluebank Kd16, Kroonstad Kd13, Uitspan Kd18	450 - 900	30.5	20 - 35	35 - 50
Southwold Cv26, Newport Cv27, Oatsdale Cv16	450 - 900	22.3	23 - 35	30 - 40
Avalon Av26	500 - 900	7.5	25 - 35	30 - 40
Estcourt Es36, Rosemead Es16	300 - 600	5.5	20 - 30	40 - 60
Sibasa We13	300 - 450	4.8	25 - 35	35 - 45
Lindley Va41	250 - 450	3.3	25 - 35	35 - 55
Willowbrook Wo11, Chinyika Wo21, Arcadia Ar40, Rensburg Rg20	300 - 600	2.5	35 - 50	
Warrick Wa22, Endicott Wa13	300 - 600	2.0	20 - 30	40 - 50

The landtype is dominated by soils with low to medium clay content in the A horizon. Only 2.5% of soils associated with this landtype has a high clay content (above 40%) in the A horizon (typically associated with proximity to water bodies and / or a shallow water table).

7.1.3 Geology

Geology for landtype Ca2 typically consists of shale and sandstone of the Volksrust Formation, Eccra Group, and dolerite.

7.2 Biological attributes

7.2.1 Groundcover and vegetation

The farm (167.34 ha) is situated mostly on historical Amersfoort Highveld Clay Grassland (157.37 ha) with a section of Wakkerstroom Montane Grassland (9.98 ha) along the northern boundary. A large part of the farm (76.18 ha, 46%), including the proposed site (5.7 ha) has been completely transformed by cultivation of crops. The remainder of the farm still contain the original vegetation type, with 2.29 ha (1.4%) classified as Irreplaceable Critical Biodiversity Area (CBA), 7.77 ha (4.9%) of Local Corridor Ecological Support Area (ESA) and 81.1 ha (48%) classified as Other Natural Areas.

Amersfoort Highveld Clay Grassland is ranked as “Vulnerable” in terms of conservation status and forms part of the Mesic Highveld Grassland Bioregion in the Grassland Biome. It covers an area of 3 896.55 km², mainly in Mpumalanga and KwaZulu-Natal Provinces. It extends in a north-south band from just south of Ermelo, down through Amersfoort to the Memel area in south. It occurs at an altitude between 1 580 and 1 860 mamsl. It is rated Vulnerable with 75.5% remaining and a conservation target of 27%. None of this vegetation type is currently protected. Some 25% of unit is transformed, predominantly by cultivation (22%) and the area is not suitable for afforestation. Silver and black wattle (*Acacia* species),

and *Salix babylonica* invade drainage areas. Erosion potential is very low (57%) and low (40%).

The proposed site is located on an area that historically consisted of this vegetation type, but has been entirely transformed by agriculture and is ranked as a heavily modified area. The proposed development will therefore have no impact on this vegetation type.

Wakkerstroom Montane Grassland is ranked as “Least threatened” in terms of conservation status and forms part of the Mesic Highveld Grassland Bioregion in the Grassland Biome. It covers an area of 3 771.23 km², mainly in the Mpumalanga and KwaZulu-Natal Provinces. It occurs from the escarpment just north of Sheepmoor (north), to southeast of Utrecht, and then from the vicinity of Volksrust in the west to Mandhlangampisi Mountain near Luneburg in the east. It occurs at an altitude between 1 440 and 2 200 mamsl. It is rated Least Threatened with 93.4% remaining and a conservation target of 27%. It is currently hardly protected with less than 1% statutorily conserved in in the Paardeplaats Nature Reserve. There are 10 South African Natural Heritage Sites in this unit, although very little of it is formally protected. Land use pressures from agriculture are low (5% cultivated) probably owing to the colder climate and shallower soils. The area is also suited to afforestation, with more than 1% under *Acacia mearnsii* and *Eucalyptus* plantations. The black wattle (*Acacia mearnsii*) is an aggressive invader of riparian areas. Erosion is very low (78%) and low (19%).

7.2.2 Biodiversity classification

The farm contains 2.29 ha classified as Irreplaceable CBA, 7.77 ha of Local Corridor ESA, 76.18 ha (including the proposed site) of Modified land and 81.1 ha of Other Natural Areas (ONA). The site occurs on heavily modified land

7.2.3 Sensitive areas

The proposed site is not located on a sensitive area. The vegetation is not ranked as CBA or ONA. Sandspruit is located 510 m to the west and will not be affected by the proposed development.

7.3 Physical attributes

7.3.1 Waste generation

Activity alternative 1 (Preferred alternative)

Construction Phase

An estimated 9.6 m³ of solid waste will be produced per month during the Construction Phase. Waste is expected to be limited to packaging materials (shrink wrap, cardboard) and litter generated by the construction staff. It will also contain leftover building materials such as cement or concrete, and PVC panelling. All the leftover building materials will be removed by the building contractor. Waste will be recycled as far as possible. Non-recyclable waste will be sorted into different types and disposed of at a suitably licensed waste disposal facility.

Construction phase solid waste will be disposed of at the nearest licensed waste disposal site. Waste considered unsuitable for municipal waste disposal sites will be disposed of at a suitably licensed hazardous waste disposal facility (e.g. WasteTech).

Operational Phase

An estimated 182.14 m³ of solid waste will be produced per month during the Operational Phase. Solid waste will be disposed of at the nearest licensed waste disposal. Waste considered unsuitable for municipal waste disposal sites will be disposed of at a suitably licensed hazardous waste disposal facility (e.g. WasteTech). Any general waste such as litter generated by staff will be disposed of at the nearest licensed waste disposal site.

Manure removal

Approximately 194 tons of chicken manure will be produced monthly. Chickens are kept for a 35 – 40-day cycle. After the completion of each cycle, all chickens are caught and the manure and litter are then scooped up using a bobcat. The manure is loaded onto a closed truck and taken to agricultural fields, owned by the applicant, where it is used as fertiliser.

Disposal of mortalities

The operation will result in approximately 25 600 chicken mortalities per month. The mortalities are removed on a daily basis and collected by a predator farmer (Gielie Geldenhuys) to be used as food for wild animals and crocodiles.

Activity alternative 2

Construction Phase

An estimated 9.6 m³ of solid waste will be produced per month during the Construction Phase. Waste is expected to be limited to packaging materials (shrink wrap, cardboard) and litter generated by the construction staff. It will also contain leftover building materials such as cement or concrete, and PVC panelling. All the leftover building materials will be removed by the building contractor. Waste will be recycled as far as possible. Non-recyclable waste will be sorted into different types and disposed of at a suitably licensed waste disposal facility.

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Manure removal

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Disposal of mortalities

The operation will result in approximately 25 600 chicken mortalities per month. The mortalities are removed on a daily basis and collected by a predator farmer (Gielie Geldenhuys) to be used as food for wild animals and crocodiles.

No-go alternative

No solid waste will be produced.

7.3.2 Liquid effluent**Activity alternative 1 (Preferred alternative)**

After the completion of each cycle, all chickens are caught and the manure and litter are then scooped up and removed. After removal, all surfaces are disinfected and sanitised by spraying them with an ecologically friendly foam-based detergent that is left to evaporate. Upon completion of this process, the floors of the houses are washed (using pressure washers) with water only that will be allowed to soak into the soil surrounding the facility. This water is not contaminated as the houses are disinfected and sanitised before being sprayed down.

Activity alternative 2

After the completion of each cycle, all chickens are caught and the manure and litter are then scooped up and removed. After removal, all surfaces are disinfected and sanitised by spraying them with an ecologically friendly foam-based detergent that is left to evaporate. Upon completion of this process, the floors of the houses are washed (using pressure washers) with water only that will be allowed to soak into the soil surrounding the facility. This water is not contaminated as the houses are disinfected and sanitised before being sprayed down.

No-go alternative

No liquid effluent will be produced.

7.3.3 Atmospheric emissions**Activity alternative 1 (Preferred alternative)**

Since the houses will be environmentally controlled poultry houses, the amounts of dust, ammonia and odours released into the atmosphere will be minimal.

Activity alternative 2

If this activity alternative is chosen, open houses will be used and relatively high amounts of dust, ammonia and odours will be released into the atmosphere, being of some discomfort to neighbours.

No-go alternative

No liquid effluent will be produced.

7.3.4 Noise**Activity alternative 1 (Preferred alternative)**

Low levels of noise will be produced by the chickens in the houses.

Activity alternative 2

Low levels of noise will be produced by the chickens in the houses.

No-go alternative

Low levels of noise will be produced during cultivation of the fields.

7.3.5 Water use**Activity alternative 1 (Preferred alternative)**

The site is located in Quaternary Drainage Area C13B with a water allocation of 75 m³ / ha / year as published by DWS. The activity will use approximately 960 m³ of water per month. This will be sourced from groundwater through existing boreholes.

Activity alternative 2

The activity will use approximately 960 m³ of water per month. This will be sourced from groundwater through existing boreholes.

No-go alternative

The activity will not use water.

7.3.5.1 Water balance**1. Total water consumption per month (m³):**

Total water consumption = 960 m³/month

2. Water consumption per poultry house:

Number of poultry houses = 12

Water consumption per poultry house = Total water consumption / Number of poultry houses

= 960 m³ / 12

= 80 m³/house

3. Water consumption per hectare:

Farm area = 167.35 hectares

4. Annual water allocation for drainage area C13B (m³):

Water allocation per hectare per year = 75 m³/ha/year

Total water allocation = Water allocation per hectare per year x Farm area

= 75 m³/ha/year x 167.35 ha

= 12,526.25 m³/year

5. Monthly water allocation for drainage area C13B (m³):

Monthly water allocation = Annual water allocation / 12 months

= 12,526.25 m³ / 12

= 1,043.85 m³/month

6. Water usage as a percentage of allocation:

Percentage of water usage = (Total water consumption / Monthly water allocation) x 100

= (960 m³ / 1,043.85 m³) x 100

≈ 91.97%

Based on this water balance the poultry operation's total water consumption is within the monthly water allocation for drainage area C13B, representing approximately 91.97% of the allocated water. This indicates responsible water usage within the designated limits.

7.3.6 Energy efficiency

Activity alternative 1 (Preferred alternative)

Because of a higher isolation (R) value (12 for environmentally controlled poultry houses 1.5 for open houses) the use of fans for cooling in summer are much lower in closed houses than in open houses. During winter, closed houses also retain heat much longer and need substantially less heating than open houses. Energy efficient fans are also used. All the houses will be fitted with a day-night detector switch in order for outside lights only to be on when absolutely necessary. All lights inside the house make use of energy saving light bulbs. Solar panels will be placed on the roofs of the houses for alternative energy production.

Activity alternative 2

Open houses have a much lower isolation (R) value (12 for semi - closed houses versus 1.5 for open houses), but canvas "walls" are opened or closed to regulated the temperature inside the houses to a degree. During winter, open houses have a poor heat retention rate and more energy is needed for heating.

No-go alternative

The activity will not use electricity.

7.4 Human environment

7.4.1 Heritage and cultural attributes

The proposed site is located on an area that consists of agricultural fields that is ploughed annually for crop cultivation. The lands have been ploughed every year for at least the last 30 years. No artefacts of archaeological or cultural significance have been unearthed by the ploughing of the fields. Excavation for earthworks and construction will not be deeper than the ploughing that has already been done at the site and it is therefore highly unlikely that any artefacts will be present at the site. However, in the event that any artefact that might be of cultural or archaeological significance is uncovered, construction will cease immediately and a Heritage Specialist will be contacted for advice.

7.4.2 Socio-economic attributes

The Dr Pixley Ka Isaka Seme Local Municipality is a Category B municipality situated within the Gert Sibande District in the Mpumalanga Province. It is bordered by Msukaligwa in the north, the Free State and KwaZulu-Natal Provinces in the south, Mkhondo in the east, and Lekwa in the west. It is one of the seven municipalities that make up the district, accounting for 16% of its geographical area.

The municipality is named after Pixley Ka Isaka Seme, a founder and president of the African National Congress. Volksrust is the seat of the municipality.

Area: 5 227 km²

Cities/Towns: Amersfoort, Perdekop, Volksrust, Wakkerstroom

Main Economic Sectors: Agriculture (20%), trade (19.9%), community services (16.4%), construction (12.1%), finance (5.9%), manufacturing (4.6%), transport (4.4%), utilities (3.8%), mining (2.2%)

The proposed development will contribute to social and economic uplifted through the addition of capital value and income generation to the region, as well as job creation. The table below summarises the expected relevant contributions.

Aspect	Activity alternative 1 (preferred activity)	Activity alternative 2	No-go alternative
Capital value	R 35 000 000.00	R 35 000 000.00	R 0
Annual income generation	R 12 000 000.00	R 12 000 000.00	R 0
Employment opportunities during construction	25	25	0
Value of employment opportunities during construction	R 3 750 000.00	R 3 750 000.00	R 0
Percentage to previously disadvantaged	90%	90%	0
Permanent employment opportunities	12	12	0
Value of permanent employment for 10 years	R 18 000 000.00	R 18 000 000.00	R 0
Percentage to disadvantaged	90%	90%	0

8. POTENTIAL IMPACTS

The impact assessment in this section considered the following activities and the impact of each of the activities:

Activity 1: The utilisation of 5.7 ha of agricultural land.

Activity 2: Earthworks on a total of 5.7 ha to prepare for the construction of 12 poultry houses.

Activity 3: Construction of the poultry facility.

Activity 4: Operation of the poultry facility.

8.1 Full description of impacts and risks identified

Impacts and risks identified including the nature, significance, consequence, extent, duration and probability of the impacts and the degree to which these impacts can be mitigated

8.1.1 Activity alternative 1 – Construction of twelve environmentally controlled poultry houses (preferred activity)

*Activity	Specific Impact & Risk	Extent	Duration	Severity	Degree of Certainty	Probability	Significance prior to mitigation	Status of Impact	Reversibility/Mitigation Measures to be Implemented
1-3	Air pollution on a local level.	2	1	2	1	3	Low	Negative	This impact is not reversible, but can be completely avoided by the following measures: Dust control by means of watering if necessary. Vehicles to be regularly serviced and well-tuned. Operations to be undertaken during working hours only.
1-3	Contamination of soils, surface water and groundwater due to leakages from vehicles	1	1	2	3	3	Low	Negative	This impact is not reversible, but can be completely avoided by the following measures: Machinery must be properly maintained at all times. Servicing of

*Activity	Specific Impact & Risk	Extent	Duration	Severity	Degree of Certainty	Probability	Significance prior to mitigation	Status of Impact	Reversibility/Mitigation Measures to be Implemented
	entering and exiting the site.								machinery must take place only in specific demarcated and protected areas. Measures must be taken for the proper disposal of oils, grease, oil filters, rags, etc.
3,4	Pollution of soil, surface water and groundwater due to ineffective management of sewage and general waste management.	3	3	3	2	3	Medium	Negative	This impact is not reversible, but can be completely avoided by the following measures: Proper ablution facilities must be provided i.e. chemical toilets at appropriate locations on site if necessary or existing facilities must be used. Workers must be made aware of the risk of soil water contamination. Domestic waste must be disposed of in appropriate containers, and removed to the nearest municipal waste-disposal site as part of existing waste management system.
4	Pollution of soil, surface water and groundwater due to ineffective manure disposal.	3	3	3	2	3	Medium	Negative	This impact is not reversible, but can be completely avoided by the following measures: After the completion of each cycle, all chickens are caught and the manure and litter are then scooped

*Activity	Specific Impact & Risk	Extent	Duration	Severity	Degree of Certainty	Probability	Significance prior to mitigation	Status of Impact	Reversibility/Mitigation Measures to be Implemented
									up using a bobcat. The manure is loaded onto a closed truck and taken to agricultural fields, owned by the applicant, where it is used as fertiliser. Manure should be handled according to Odour Management Plan (Appendix F2), Waste Management Plan (Appendix F3) and Biosecurity Plan (Appendix F4).
4	Pollution of soil, surface water and groundwater due to ineffective disposal of mortalities.	3	3	3	2	3	Medium	Negative	This impact is not reversible, but can be completely avoided by the following measures: The mortalities are removed on a daily basis and collected by a predator farm (Gielie Geldenhuys) to be used as food for wild animals and crocodiles. Mortalities should be handled according to Odour Management Plan (Appendix F2), Waste Management Plan (Appendix F3) and Biosecurity Plan (Appendix F4).
1-4	Soil compaction and loss of fertility.	1	1	2	3	3	Low	Negative	This impact is not reversible, but can be completely avoided by the

*Activity	Specific Risk	Impact & Extent	Duration	Severity	Degree of Certainty	Probability	Significance prior to mitigation	Status of Impact	Reversibility/Mitigation Measures to be Implemented
									following measures: Appropriate measures must be taken to reduce the risk of erosion from unprotected slopes i.e. diversion berms, ponding pools, and not exceeding angles of repose of stockpiled material. All unprotected slopes must be rehabilitated concurrent with construction.
2-4	Increased fire risk	1	1	2	3	3	Low	Negative	This impact is not reversible, but can be completely avoided by the following measures: Cooking and heating fires permitted only in designated areas with appropriate safety measures. Adequate firefighting equipment must be available, as prescribed by the relevant safety standards and legislation.
1-4	Disturbance of fauna	3	3	3	2	3	Medium	Negative	This impact is not reversible, but can be completely avoided by the following measures: Only the preferred site should be used for construction and operational activities. This site is located on an agricultural land and will contain minimal fauna. No

*Activity	Specific Impact & Risk	Extent	Duration	Severity	Degree of Certainty	Probability	Significance prior to mitigation	Status of Impact	Reversibility/Mitigation Measures to be Implemented
									fauna found on the site will be killed.
1-3	Disturbance of flora	1	5	5	1	5	High	Negative	This impact is not reversible, but can be completely avoided. Only the preferred site should be used for construction and operation of the facility. The preferred site is located on an agricultural field and utilisation of this site will not have an impact on flora.
1-3	Safety on the construction site	4	5	5	3	3	High	Negative	This impact is not reversible, but can be completely avoided by the following measures: Access to the construction site to be controlled at all times.
1-4	Degradation of aesthetics	3	5	3	2	4	High	Negative	This impact is not reversible, but can be mitigated and minimised. If needed, an additional line of trees will be planted to minimise visual impact.
1-4	The construction and operation of the poultry facility will provide employment opportunities to the local communities.	4	4	3	1	5	High	Positive	No mitigation suggested.

8.1.2 Activity alternative 2 – Construction of open poultry houses

*Activity	Specific Impact & Risk	Extent	Duration	Severity	Degree of Certainty	Probability	Significance prior to mitigation	Status of Impact	Reversibility/Mitigation Measures to be Implemented
1-3	Air pollution on a local level.	2	1	2	1	3	Low	Negative	This impact is not reversible, but can be completely avoided by the following measures: Dust control by means of watering if necessary. Vehicles to be regularly serviced and well-tuned. Operations to be undertaken during working hours only.
1-3	Contamination of soils, surface water and groundwater due to leakages from vehicles entering and exiting the site.	1	1	2	3	3	Low	Negative	This impact is not reversible, but can be completely avoided by the following measures: Machinery must be properly maintained at all times. Servicing of machinery must take place only in specific demarcated and protected areas. Measures must be taken for the proper disposal of oils, grease, oil filters, rags, etc.
3,4	Pollution of soil, surface water and groundwater due to ineffective management of sewage and general waste	3	3	3	2	3	Medium	Negative	This impact is not reversible, but can be completely avoided by the following measures: Proper ablution facilities must be provided i.e. chemical toilets at appropriate locations on site if necessary or existing facilities must

*Activity	Specific Impact & Risk	Extent	Duration	Severity	Degree of Certainty	Probability	Significance prior to mitigation	Status of Impact	Reversibility/Mitigation Measures to be Implemented
	management.								be used. Workers must be made aware of the risk of soil water contamination. Domestic waste must be disposed of in appropriate containers, and removed to the Nearest municipal waste-disposal site as part of existing waste management system.
4	Pollution of soil, surface water and groundwater due to ineffective manure disposal.	3	3	3	2	3	Medium	Negative	<p>This impact is not reversible, but can be completely avoided by the following measures:</p> <p>After the completion of each cycle, all chickens are caught and the manure and litter are then scooped up using a bobcat. The manure is loaded onto a closed truck and taken to agricultural fields, owned by the applicant, where it is used as fertiliser.</p> <p>Manure should be handled according to Odour Management Plan (Appendix F2), Waste Management Plan (Appendix F3) and Biosecurity Plan (Appendix F4).</p>

*Activity	Specific Impact & Risk	Extent	Duration	Severity	Degree of Certainty	Probability	Significance prior to mitigation	Status of Impact	Reversibility/Mitigation Measures to be Implemented
4	Pollution of soil, surface water and groundwater due to ineffective disposal of mortalities.	3	3	3	2	3	Medium	Negative	This impact is not reversible, but can be completely avoided by the following measures: The mortalities are removed on a daily basis and collected by a predator farmer (Gielie Geldenhuys) to be used as food for wild animals and crocodiles. Mortalities should be handled according to Odour Management Plan (Appendix F2), Waste Management Plan (Appendix F3) and Biosecurity Plan (Appendix F4).
1-4	Soil compaction and loss of fertility.	1	1	2	3	3	Low	Negative	This impact is not reversible, but can be completely avoided by the following measures: Appropriate measures must be taken to reduce the risk of erosion from unprotected slopes i.e. diversion berms, ponding pools, and not exceeding angles of repose of stockpiled material. All unprotected slopes must be rehabilitated concurrent with construction.
2-4	Increased fire risk	1	1	2	3	3	Low	Negative	This impact is not reversible, but

*Activity	Specific Impact & Risk	Extent	Duration	Severity	Degree of Certainty	Probability	Significance prior to mitigation	Status of Impact	Reversibility/Mitigation Measures to be Implemented
									can be completely avoided by the following measures: Cooking and heating fires permitted only in designated areas with appropriate safety measures. Adequate firefighting equipment must be available, as prescribed by the relevant safety standards and legislation.
1-4	Disturbance of fauna	3	3	3	2	3	Medium	Negative	This impact is not reversible, but can be completely avoided by the following measures: Only the preferred site should be used for construction and operational activities. This site is located on an agricultural land and will contain minimal fauna. No fauna found on the site will be killed.
1-3	Disturbance of flora	1	5	5	1	5	High	Negative	This impact is not reversible, but can be completely avoided. Only the preferred site should be used for construction and operation of the facility. The preferred site is located on an agricultural field and utilisation of this site will not have an impact on flora.
1-3	Safety on the construction site	4	5	5	3	3	High	Negative	This impact is not reversible, but can be completely avoided by the

*Activity	Specific Impact & Risk	Extent	Duration	Severity	Degree of Certainty	Probability	Significance prior to mitigation	Status of Impact	Reversibility/Mitigation Measures to be Implemented
									following measures: Access to the construction site to be controlled at all times.
1-3	Degradation of aesthetics	3	5	3	2	4	High	Negative	This impact is not reversible, but can be mitigated and minimised. If needed, an additional line of trees will be planted to minimise visual impact.
1-3	The construction and operation of the poultry facility will provide employment opportunities to the local communities.	3	4	3	1	5	High	Positive	No mitigation suggested.

8.1.3 “No-go” alternative – Agricultural land

*Activity	Specific Impact & Risk	Extent	Duration	Severity	Degree of Certainty	Probability	Significance prior to mitigation	Status of Impact	Reversibility/Mitigation Measures to be Implemented
N/A	Air pollution on a local level.	2	1	2	1	3	Low	Negative	No additional activity will take place, only agriculture that already exists on the site. No mitigation recommended.

*Activity	Specific Impact & Risk	Extent	Duration	Severity	Degree of Certainty	Probability	Significance prior to mitigation	Status of Impact	Reversibility/Mitigation Measures to be Implemented
N/A	Contamination of soils, surface water and groundwater due to leakages from vehicles entering and exiting the site.	2	1	2	1	3	Low	Negative	No additional activity will take place, only agriculture that already exists on the site. No mitigation recommended.
N/A	Pollution of soil, surface water and groundwater due to ineffective management of sewage and general waste management.	2	1	2	1	3	Low	Negative	No additional activity will take place, only agriculture that already exists on the site. No mitigation recommended.
N/A	Pollution of soil, surface water and groundwater due to ineffective manure disposal.	2	1	2	1	3	Low	Negative	No additional activity will take place, only agriculture that already exists on the site. No mitigation recommended.

*Activity	Specific Impact & Risk	Extent	Duration	Severity	Degree of Certainty	Probability	Significance prior to mitigation	Status of Impact	Reversibility/Mitigation Measures to be Implemented
N/A	Pollution of soil, surface water and groundwater due to ineffective disposal of mortalities.	2	1	2	1	3	Low	Negative	No additional activity will take place, only agriculture that already exists on the site. No mitigation recommended.
N/A	Soil compaction and loss of fertility.	2	1	2	1	3	Low	Negative	No additional activity will take place, only agriculture that already exists on the site. No mitigation recommended.
N/A	Increased fire risk	2	1	2	1	3	Low	Negative	No additional activity will take place, only agriculture that already exists on the site. No mitigation recommended.

*Activity	Specific Impact & Risk	Extent	Duration	Severity	Degree of Certainty	Probability	Significance prior mitigation to	Status of Impact	Reversibility/Mitigation Measures to be Implemented
N/A	Disturbance of fauna	2	1	2	1	3	Low	Negative	No additional activity will take place, only agriculture that already exists on the site. No mitigation recommended.
N/A	Safety on the construction site	2	1	2	1	3	Low	Negative	No additional activity will take place, only agriculture that already exists on the site. No mitigation recommended.
N/A	Degradation of aesthetics	2	1	2	1	3	Low	Negative	No additional activity will take place, only agriculture that already exists on the site. No mitigation recommended.

8.2 Methodology of determining impacts

- Various site visits were conducted by the EAP and information was gathered regarding the nature of the process and the baseline environment.
- The significance of identified impacts was determined as follows:
- **Extent**

The extent of the impact refers to the spatial dimension to which an impact will be felt (i.e. site, study area, local, regional, or national scale). The criteria for rating the impact extent are described in more detail in Table 1.

Table 1: Extent of Impact

Extent					
Rating	1	2	3	4	5
Description	On site or the impact will be restricted to its immediate area	Study area Or the impact will be restricted to the site or route	Local Or the impact will affect an area up to 5 km from the site and route	Regional/Provincial Or the impact will be felt on a Local, district municipal or Provincial level	National/International Or the maximum extent of any impact

- **Duration**

In order to accurately describe the impact, it is necessary to understand the duration and persistence of an impact in the environment. The criteria for rating the duration of the impact are described in more detail in Table 2.

Table 2: Duration of Impact

Duration

Rating	1	2	3	4	5
Description	Temporary Or the impact will occur very sporadically or less than 1 year from commencement of activity	Short-term Or the impact will continue to occur for a period between 1 to 5 years from commencement of activity	Medium term Or the impact will continue to occur for a period between 5 to 10 years from commencement of activity	Long term Or the impact will continue to occur for a period longer than 10 years from commencement of activity	Permanent Or the impact will be continued until the conclusion of activity

- **Severity**

A description must be given as to whether an impact is destructive, or benign. It determines whether the intensity of the impact on the natural environment or society is permanently, significantly changes its functionality, or slightly alters it. The mitigation potential must be determined for each impact. If limited information or expertise exists, estimates based on experience will be made. The criteria for rating the severity of the impact are described in more detail in Table 3.

Table 3: Severity of Impact

Severity					
Rating	1	2	3	4	5
Description	Temporary impact easily reversible. Insignificant change or deterioration or disturbance Or improvement of natural and social environments	Short-term impact. Low cost to mitigate Small Moderate change or deterioration or disturbance Or improvement of natural and social	Medium term impact, which require substantial cost to mitigate. Potential to mitigate and potential to reverse impact Significant change or	Long term impact High cost to mitigate Possible to mitigate Very significant change or deterioration or disturbance Or improvement of	Permanent impact Prohibitive cost to mitigate Little or no mechanism to mitigate Irreversible Disastrous change or

Severity					
		environments	deterioration or disturbance Or improvement of natural and social environments	natural and social environments	deterioration or disturbance or improvement of natural and social environments

- **Degree of certainty**

As with all studies it is not possible to be 100% certain of all facts and for this reason a standard “Degree of certainty” scale is used as discussed in Table 4.

Table 4: Degree of Certainty of Impact Occurrence

Degree of Certainty					
Rating	1	2	3	4	5
Description	Definite Or more than 90% sure of the fact or the likelihood of the impact occurring	Probable Or between 70% and 90% sure of the fact or the likelihood of the impact occurring	Possible Or between 40% and 70% sure of the fact or the likelihood of the impact occurring	Unsure Or less than 40% sure of the fact or the likelihood of the impact occurring.	Unknown or the consultant or specialist believes an assessment is not possible even with additional research.

- **Probability**

The criteria used for rating the likelihood of impact occurrence are described in more detail in Table 5.

Table 5: Probability of Impact Occurrence

Probability					
Rating	1	2	3	4	5
Description	Impossible Or the impact will not occur	Improbable Or the possibility of the impact occurring is very low	Probable Or there is a possibility that the impact will occur, provision must be provided	Highly probable Or it is most likely that the impact will occur at some stage, provision must be provided	Definite Or the impact will take place regardless of any prevention plans and there can only be relied on mitigation measures to contain the impact

- **Significance**

Evaluating the significance of environmental impacts is a critical component of impact analysis. The matrix uses the consequence and the probability of the different activities and associated impacts to determine the significance of the impacts. Consequence is determined by the sum total of criteria like extent, duration and severity, degree of certainty of impact as well as compliance to applicable legislation. Values of 1-5 are assigned to each of the different criteria to determine the overall consequence, which is divided by 3 to give a criterion rating.

The overall consequence and probability rating are multiplied to give a Draft significance rating. The values as shown in the following table are then used to rank the significance. It must be said however that in the end, a subjective judging of an impact can still be done, but the reasons for doing so must be qualified. The matrix used to determine the significance of each of the identified impact in this study is shown in Table 6.

Table 6: Impact Significance Matrix

Impact Significance Matrix

Rating	Very Low	Low	Medium	High	Very High
	1-4	5-10	11-15	16-20	21-25+
Description	There is little or no impact at all	Impact is of a low order and therefore likely to have little real effect In the case of adverse impacts: mitigation and or remedial activity is either easily achieved or little will be required, or both In the case of beneficial impacts, alternative means for achieving this benefit are likely to be easier, cheaper, more effective, less time consuming, or some combination of these.	Impact is real but not substantial in relation to other impacts, which might take effect within the bounds of those which could occur In the case of adverse impacts: mitigation and or remedial activity are both feasible and fairly easily possible In the case of beneficial impacts: other means of achieving this benefit are about equal in time, cost, effort, etc.	Impact is of substantial order within the bounds of impacts which could occur In the case of adverse impacts: mitigation and or remedial activity are feasible but difficult, expensive, time- consuming or some combination In the case of beneficial impacts, other means of achieving this benefit are feasible but they are more difficult, expensive, time- consuming or some combination of these.	Of the highest order possible within the bounds of impacts which could occur In the case of adverse impacts: there is no possible mitigation and or remedial activity which could offset the impact In the case of beneficial impacts, there is no real alternative to achieving this benefit.

Table 7: How to Apply the Rating Scale

Consequence
Impact Significance = (Extent + Duration + Severity + Degree of Certainty)/3] X Probability

8.3 Summary of positive and negative impacts

Specific impact or risk	Preferred activity (Activity alternative 1)	Activity alternative 2	"No-go" alternative
Air pollution on a local level.	Negative	Negative	No impact
Contamination of soils, surface water and groundwater due to leakages from vehicles entering and exiting the site.	Negative	Negative	Negative
Pollution of soil, surface water and groundwater due to ineffective management of sewage and general waste management.	Negative	Negative	Negative
Pollution of soil, surface water and groundwater due to ineffective manure disposal.	Negative	Negative	No impact
Pollution of soil, surface water and groundwater due to ineffective disposal of mortalities.	Negative	Negative	No impact
Soil compaction and loss of fertility.	Negative	Negative	No impact
Increased fire risk	Negative	Negative	No impact
Disturbance of fauna	Negative	Negative	No impact
Disturbance of flora	Negative	Negative	No impact
Safety on the construction site	Negative	Negative	No impact
Degradation of aesthetics	Negative	Negative	Negative
The construction and operation of the poultry facility will provide employment opportunities to the local communities.	Positive	Positive	No impact

8.4 Mitigation measures

Specific impact or risk	Mitigation measures
Air pollution on a local level.	Dust control by means of watering if necessary. Vehicles to be regularly serviced and well-tuned. Operations to be undertaken during working hours only.
Contamination of soils, surface water and groundwater due to leakages from vehicles entering and exiting the site.	Machinery must be properly maintained at all times. Servicing of machinery must take place only in specific demarcated and protected areas. Measures must be taken for the proper disposal of oils, grease, oil filters, rags, etc.
Pollution of soil, surface water and groundwater due to ineffective management of sewage and general waste management.	Proper ablution facilities must be provided i.e. chemical toilets at appropriate locations on site if necessary or existing facilities must be used. Workers must be made aware of the risk of soil water contamination. Domestic waste must be disposed of in appropriate containers, and removed to the nearest municipal waste-disposal site as part of existing waste management system.
Pollution of soil, surface water and groundwater due to ineffective manure disposal.	After the completion of each cycle, all chickens are caught and the manure and litter are then scooped up using a bobcat. The manure is loaded onto a closed truck and taken to agricultural fields, owned by the applicant, where it is used as fertiliser. Manure should be handled according to Odour Management Plan (Appendix F2), Waste Management Plan (Appendix F3) and Biosecurity Plan (Appendix F4).
Pollution of soil, surface water and groundwater due to ineffective disposal of mortalities.	The mortalities are removed on a daily basis and collected by a predator farmer (Gielie Geldenhuys) to be used as food for wild animals and crocodiles. Mortalities should be handled according to Odour Management Plan (Appendix F2), Waste Management Plan (Appendix F3) and Biosecurity Plan (Appendix F4).
Soil compaction and loss of fertility.	Appropriate measures must be taken to reduce the risk of erosion from unprotected slopes i.e. diversion berms, ponding pools, and not exceeding angles of repose of stockpiled material. All unprotected slopes must be rehabilitated concurrent with construction.
Increased fire risk	Cooking and heating fires permitted only in designated areas with appropriate safety measures. Adequate firefighting equipment must be available, as prescribed by the relevant safety standards and legislation.

Disturbance of fauna	Only the preferred site should be used for construction and operational activities. This site is located on an agricultural land and will contain minimal fauna. No fauna found on the site will be killed.
Disturbance of flora	Only the preferred site should be used for construction and operation of the facility. The preferred site is located on an agricultural field and utilisation of this site will not have an impact on flora.
Safety on the construction site	Access to the construction site to be controlled at all times.
Degradation of aesthetics	If needed, an additional line of trees will be planted to minimise visual impact.
The construction and operation of the poultry facility will provide employment opportunities to the local communities.	No mitigation suggested.

8.5 Motivation for alternative selection

The proposed activity alternative was selected as it will have minimal impact on the environment after mitigation measures have been implemented.

8.6 Impact of activity on preferred location

The table below provides a description of the significance of each identified activity on the preferred site location throughout the life of the proposed project.

Specific risk or activity	Significance before mitigation	Significance after mitigation
Air pollution on a local level.	Low	Low
Contamination of soils, surface water and groundwater due to leakages from vehicles entering and exiting the site.	Low	Low
Pollution of soil, surface water and groundwater due to ineffective management of sewage and general waste management.	Medium	Low
Pollution of soil, surface water and groundwater due to ineffective manure disposal.	Medium	Low
Pollution of soil, surface water and groundwater due to ineffective disposal of mortalities.	Medium	Low
Soil compaction and loss of fertility.	Low	Low
Increased fire risk	Low	Low
Disturbance of fauna	Medium	Low
Disturbance of flora	High	Medium
Safety on the construction site	High	Low
Degradation of aesthetics	High	Low
The construction and operation of the poultry facility will provide employment opportunities to the local communities.	High	High

8.7 Description and assessment of each impact

1. **Impact:** Air pollution on a local level. Possibly caused by Activities 1-3.

This is not a cumulative impact.

Nature, significance and consequences:

Noise, dust and emissions due to excavation, stockpiling and transport of building material and removal of rubble may cause air pollution.

Extent	Duration	Probability	Reversibility	Irreplaceable loss	Degree of avoidance, management or mitigation
Study area	Short-term	Probable	Not reversible	No	This impact is not reversible, but can be completely avoided by implementing mitigation measures.

2. **Impact:** Contamination of soils, surface water and groundwater due to leakages from vehicles entering and exiting the site. Possibly caused by Activities 1-3.

This is not a cumulative impact

Nature, significance and consequences:

Contamination of surface and ground water can be caused by operation and servicing of light earthmoving and transport machinery, particularly oil spills and leakage.

Extent	Duration	Probability	Reversibility	Irreplaceable loss	Degree of avoidance, management or mitigation
Site specific	Temporary	Probable	Not reversible	No	This impact is not reversible, but can be completely avoided by implementing mitigation measures.

3. **Impact:** Pollution of soil, surface water and groundwater due to ineffective management of sewage and general waste management. Possibly caused by Activities 3 and 4.

This is not a cumulative impact

Nature, significance and consequences:

Uncontrolled sewage and domestic waste disposal by workers may cause surface and ground water pollution as well as unpleasant odours and possible health risks.

Extent	Duration	Probability	Reversibility	Irreplaceable loss	Degree of avoidance, management or mitigation
Local	Medium term	Probable	Not reversible	No	This impact is not reversible, but can be completely avoided by implementing mitigation measures.

4. **Impact:** Pollution of soil, surface water and groundwater due to ineffective manure disposal. Possibly caused by Activity 4.

Bucandi Environmental Solutions

This is not a cumulative impact

Nature, significance and consequences:

The chicken manure is an impact of only low adverse significance since it is a natural product of farming practice. As a resource it exerts a positive impact.

Extent	Duration	Probability	Reversibility	Irreplaceable loss	Degree of avoidance, management or mitigation
Local	Medium term	Probable	Not reversible	No	This impact is not reversible, but can be completely avoided by implementing mitigation measures.

5. **Impact:** Pollution of soil, surface water and groundwater due to ineffective disposal of mortalities. Possibly caused by Activity 4.

This is not a cumulative impact

Nature, significance and consequences:

Disposal of chicken mortalities pose serious health, and soil and water pollution risks.

Extent	Duration	Probability	Reversibility	Irreplaceable loss	Degree of avoidance, management or mitigation
Local	Medium term	Probable	Not reversible	No	This impact is not reversible, but can be completely avoided by implementing mitigation measures.

6. **Impact:** Soil compaction and loss of fertility. Possibly caused by Activities 1-4.

This is not a cumulative impact

Nature, significance and consequences:

Soil compaction, loss of fertility and increased erosion from unprotected slopes associated with trenches and foundations, as a result of excavation and earthmoving. This will be aggravated in the event of heavy rain.

Extent	Duration	Probability	Reversibility	Irreplaceable loss	Degree of avoidance, management or mitigation
Site specific	Temporary	Probable	Not reversible	No	This impact is not reversible, but can be completely avoided by implementing mitigation measures.

7. **Impact:** Increased fire risk. Possibly caused by Activities 2-4.

This is not a cumulative impact

Nature, significance and consequences:

Uncontrolled cooking fires could cause veld fires. This would harm fauna and flora and pose a safety risk, particularly concerning vehicles and the adjacent land users.

Extent	Duration	Probability	Reversibility	Irreplaceable loss	Degree of avoidance, management or mitigation
Site specific	Temporary	Probable	Not reversible	No	This impact is not reversible, but can be completely avoided by implementing mitigation measures.

8. Impact: Disturbance of fauna. Possibly caused by Activities 1-4.

This is not a cumulative impact

Nature, significance and consequences:

Temporary disturbance of fauna, becoming permanent as operational phase commences.

This impact is unavoidable, but of low significance since there are no endangered species present.

Extent	Duration	Probability	Reversibility	Irreplaceable loss	Degree of avoidance, management or mitigation
Local	Medium term	Probable	Not reversible	No	This impact is not reversible, but can be completely avoided by implementing mitigation measures.

9 Impact: Disturbance of flora. Possibly caused by Activities 1-3.

This is not a cumulative impact

Nature, significance and consequences:

Indigenous vegetation will be cleared within the proposed site boundary. This impact is unavoidable, but of low significance since there are no endangered species present.

Extent	Duration	Probability	Reversibility	Irreplaceable loss	Degree of avoidance, management or mitigation
Site	Long term	Definite	Not reversible	No	This impact is not reversible, but can be kept to a minimum by implementing mitigation measures.

10. Impact: Safety on the construction site. Possibly caused by Activities 1-3.

This is not a cumulative impact

Nature, significance and consequences:

Injuries to residents and construction workers can be cause as a result of construction activities.

Extent	Duration	Probability	Reversibility	Irreplaceable loss	Degree of avoidance, management or mitigation
Regional	Permanent	Probable	Not reversible	Yes	This impact is not reversible, but can be completely avoided by implementing mitigation measures.

11. **Impact:** Degradation of aesthetics. Possibly caused by Activities 1-4.

This is not a cumulative impact

Nature, significance and consequences:

Visual impacts may occur during the construction and operational phase as a result of vehicle exhausts, dust, bare unprotected areas, the possibility of littering and the presence of poultry houses.

Extent	Duration	Probability	Reversibility	Irreplaceable loss	Degree of avoidance, management or mitigation
Local	Permanent	Probable	Not reversible	Yes	This impact is not reversible, but can be completely avoided by implementing mitigation measures.

12. **Impact:** Economic benefit to the local communities. Possibly caused by Activities 1-4.

This is not a cumulative impact

Nature, significance and consequences:

The construction and operation of the poultry facility will provide employment opportunities to the local communities.

Extent	Duration	Probability	Reversibility	Irreplaceable loss	Degree of avoidance, management or mitigation
Regional	Long term	Probable	Not reversible	No	No avoidance or mitigation required.

8.8 Summary of specialist reports

No specialist study was conducted for the Draft report.

9. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

9.1 Key findings of the environmental impact assessment

It is important that all the mitigation measures identified in Section 8 and the EMP are implemented in order to prevent environmental impacts. If the mitigation measures are implemented and monitored, the impact of the proposed activity on the environment will be minimal. See Appendix A for a layout plan containing all the proposed activities and indicating any areas that has to be avoided.

9.2 Summary of the positive and negative impacts

Specific impact or risk	Preferred activity (Activity alternative 1)	Activity alternative 2	"No-go" alternative
Air pollution on a local level.	Negative	Negative	No impact
Contamination of soils, surface water and groundwater due to leakages from vehicles entering and exiting the site.	Negative	Negative	Negative
Pollution of soil, surface water and groundwater due to ineffective management of sewage and general waste management.	Negative	Negative	No impact
Pollution of soil, surface water and groundwater due to ineffective manure disposal.	Negative	Negative	No impact
Pollution of soil, surface water and groundwater due to ineffective disposal of mortalities.	Negative	Negative	No impact
Soil compaction and loss of fertility.	Negative	Negative	No impact
Increased fire risk	Negative	Negative	No impact
Disturbance of fauna	Negative	Negative	No impact
Disturbance of flora	Negative	Negative	No impact
Safety on the construction site	Negative	Negative	No impact
Degradation of aesthetics	Negative	Negative	Negative
The construction and operation of the poultry facility will provide employment	Positive	Positive	No impact

opportunities to the local communities.			
-----------------------------------------	--	--	--

10. IMPACT MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES

10.1 Ecological environment

- Injudicious and unnecessary destruction of natural vegetation should be avoided at all costs.
- Plant species of conservation significance should be conserved as far as possible by means of:
 - Avoidance of unnecessary disturbance or destruction of their habitat.
 - If possible, developments that jeopardize any specimens or large populations of red data or protected species should be planned in such a way as to avoid the specimens or populations.
- The eradication of declared weed and invader plant populations in the study area is strongly advised. A management plan and proper follow-up strategy for the prevention of the spread or establishment of new populations of such species should be developed and enforced.
- Where necessary, temporary water control structures should be put in place to minimize erosion and to create a favourable habitat for the establishment of vegetation during and after rehabilitation/landscaping.
- In the event of any protected or Declining species being recorded within the approved development site, permission for the removal of such species should be obtained from the Permitting Office of DARDLEA, and the appropriate in situ and / or ex situ conservation measures should be developed and implemented with the approval of the DARDLEA conservation authorities. Where feasible, protected or Declining species can be translocated to degraded or untransformed parts of the study area which provide potentially suitable habitat, but such translocations will have to be carried out in a way that ensures no ecological degradation of the host habitat occurs, and will have to be evaluated by an ecologist for each species and each potential translocation area. Alternatively, protected or Declining species can be rescued and donated to appropriate conservation and research institutions such as the Walter Sisulu National Botanical Garden (Roodepoort) or the Pretoria National Botanical Garden of SANBI.
- Where possible, development should avoid habitat identified with high ecological sensitivity.
- According to the AIS regulations all declared alien weeds must be effectively controlled or eradicated.

10.2 Landforms and soils

- Drip trays must be used when refuelling and servicing construction vehicles or equipment. A spill “sock” should permanently be placed within the drip tray and replaced as and when required. Drip trays must be placed underneath stationary construction

vehicles and the hazardous waste (e.g. fuel, oils etc.) taken to the nearest approved oil refiner or fuel recycling point for recycling.

- The existing road infrastructure as indicated in the land use map should be used, where possible.
- Care must be taken that unnecessary clearance of vegetation does not take place. The footprint of disturbance outside the construction area must be kept as small as possible, and must be rehabilitated as soon as possible.
- Regular clean-up programs must be applied at and around the site to prevent litter and to ensure proper housekeeping practices.

10.3 Surface water

- Regular clean-up programs must be applied at and around the site to prevent litter and to ensure proper housekeeping practices.
- In order to contain oil and fuel spills, drip pans or PVC lining shall be provided for drip pans. Spill kits be readily available on site and in every vehicle.
- Existing roads / tracks should be used wherever possible.
- Any new tracks must be pre-approved by the ECO and landowner. It should be ensured that steep slopes and sensitive environments (e.g. watercourses) are avoided during the planning of the new routes.
- To prevent storm water damage, the increase in storm water run-off resulting from construction activities must be estimated and the drainage system assessed accordingly, to prevent downstream impacts on water resources (including but not limited to: scouring, sedimentation, erosion and undercutting).
- Water should be used sparingly and it should be ensured that no water is wasted e.g. regular inspection of pipes to ensure that no leaks occur.
- Water tanks should be regularly inspected to ensure that no leaks occur.
- Please see Appendix F1 for recommendations regarding stormwater management.

10.4 Groundwater

- Drip trays must be used when refuelling and servicing construction vehicles or equipment. A spill “sock” should permanently be placed within the drip tray and replaced as and when required. Drip trays must be placed underneath stationary construction vehicles and the hazardous waste (e.g. fuel, oils etc.) taken to the nearest approved oil refiner or fuel recycling point for recycling.

10.5 Aesthetic environment:

- Care must be taken that unnecessary clearance of vegetation does not take place. The footprint of disturbance outside the construction area must be kept as small as possible, and must be rehabilitated as soon as possible.
- The rehabilitation and soil management must be done in accordance with the guidelines provided in the EMP.
- Regular clean-up programs must be applied at and around the site to prevent litter and to ensure proper housekeeping practices.

- Access to the site should be pre-arranged with the landowner. Only authorised personnel may be permitted on site.
- The construction site must be positioned and managed in an ecologically sound manner, minimising the potential negative impacts on the surrounding environment.
- It should be ensured that the personnel comply with speed restriction of 20 km per hour within the site boundaries to reduce the generation of dust.
- Disturbance should be limited to the minimum and agreed upon footprint, and no vehicle turning, parking or access, or other form of disturbance e.g. vegetation clearance, soil compaction or excavation should be allowed outside these areas.
- Any damage to public or private property, including roads, storm water systems, fences, gates, buildings and other structures, pipes, lines and other utilities or infrastructure and movable properties, should be repaired, replaced or otherwise compensated for as agreed with the affected person.
- The applicant must arrange for a discussion session with the surrounding access route users with regard to the maintenance of the access road.
- A complaints register should be maintained to log complaints by landowners, occupants and other Interested and Affected Parties, and response to such complaints.
- The complaints register should be provided to DARDLEA on an annual basis and at any point in time if requested by the DARDLEA.
- Care must be taken that unnecessary clearance of vegetation does not take place. The footprint of disturbance outside the construction area must be kept as small as possible, and must be rehabilitated as soon as possible.
- Alien invasive plants should be removed from all disturbed and subsequently rehabilitated areas.

10.6 Noise

- Vehicles and construction equipment must be well serviced so that they do not produce excessive noise.
- Construction should only take place between 08h00 and 17h00 from Monday to Friday.
- It should be ensured that the personnel comply with speed restrictions of 20 km per hour within the site boundaries to reduce the generation of noise.
- Contractors must comply with provincial noise regulations. The construction machinery must be fitted with noise mufflers and be maintained properly.
- Construction should only take place between 08h00 and 17h00 from Monday to Friday.

10.7 Air quality

- It should be ensured that the personnel comply with speed restriction of 20 km per hour within the site boundaries to reduce the generation of dust.
- Dust suppression through the spraying of water should be practiced.

10.8 Health, safety and security hazards

- The site must be properly demarcated and the proposed access routes approved by the ECO and landowner prior to the commencing of the construction activities.
- No open fires are allowed outside designated cooking areas.

- Site supervisors must ensure that the staff remains within the demarcated construction areas and access routes at all times.
- No smoking is to be allowed in the vicinity of fuel dispensing areas (smoking is only to be allowed in designated “safe” areas).
- Adequate firefighting equipment must be available onsite at all times and at least one person present on the site must be trained in the use thereof.
- Labourers and contract workers (if any) should be accompanied by a responsible supervisor at all times.
- Strict access control must be exercised to ensure that no unauthorised persons enter the property.
- All construction vehicles should be fitted with standard reverse alarms.
- The workers must wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to ensure their safety during construction.
- Workers may not receive any visitors while they are within the property.
- Workers should not be allowed to keep or use alcohol, recreational drugs, traditional or modern weapons, snares or otherwise dangerous objects on-site, or to enter the construction area while on the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- Disturbance should be limited to the minimum and agreed upon footprint, and no vehicle turning, parking or access, or other form of disturbance e.g. vegetation clearance, soil compaction or excavation should be allowed outside these areas.
- It must be ensured by the relevant contractor that a list of all the relevant emergency telephone numbers and contact persons are kept up to date and posted at relevant locations at the site.
- A complaints register should be maintained to log complaints by landowners, occupants and other Interested and Affected Parties, and response to such complaints. The complaints register should be provided to DARDLEA on an annual basis and at any point in time if requested by the DARDLEA.

11. ASPECTS FOR INCLUSION IN AUTHORISATION

11.1 Reasoned opinion

The Draft site plans (Appendix C) were created taking into account all the concerns raised by the public, specialist reports and impact assessment. If this map is followed, and if proper management and mitigation is implemented and rehabilitation is done and monitored, the impact can be kept relatively low.

It is recommended that the activity should be authorised.

11.2 Conditions that must be included in the authorisation

Mitigation and management measures as stipulated in Sections 9 and 11 should be implemented.

The rehabilitation and soil management must be done in accordance with the guidelines provided in the EMPr.

Environmental audits should be conducted every two months during the Construction Phase and every six months during the Operational Phase.

Rehabilitation monitoring should be conducted according to the EMPr.

Rehabilitation should be ongoing while operation is taking place.

12. APPENDICES

Appendix A: Maps

Appendix B: Site photographs

Appendix C: Site plans

Appendix D: Public participation

Appendix E: EMPr

Appendix F: Additional information

Appendix G: CV of EAP

Appendix H: Screening Tool Report

13. UNDERTAKING

The EAP herewith confirms

- a) the correctness of the information provided in the reports ☒
- b) the inclusion of comments and inputs from stakeholders and I&APS; ☒
- c) the inclusion of inputs and recommendations from the specialist reports where relevant; ☒ and
- d) that the information provided by the EAP to interested and affected parties and any responses by the EAP to comments or inputs made by interested and affected parties are correctly reflected herein. ☒



Signature

Environmental Assessment Practitioner

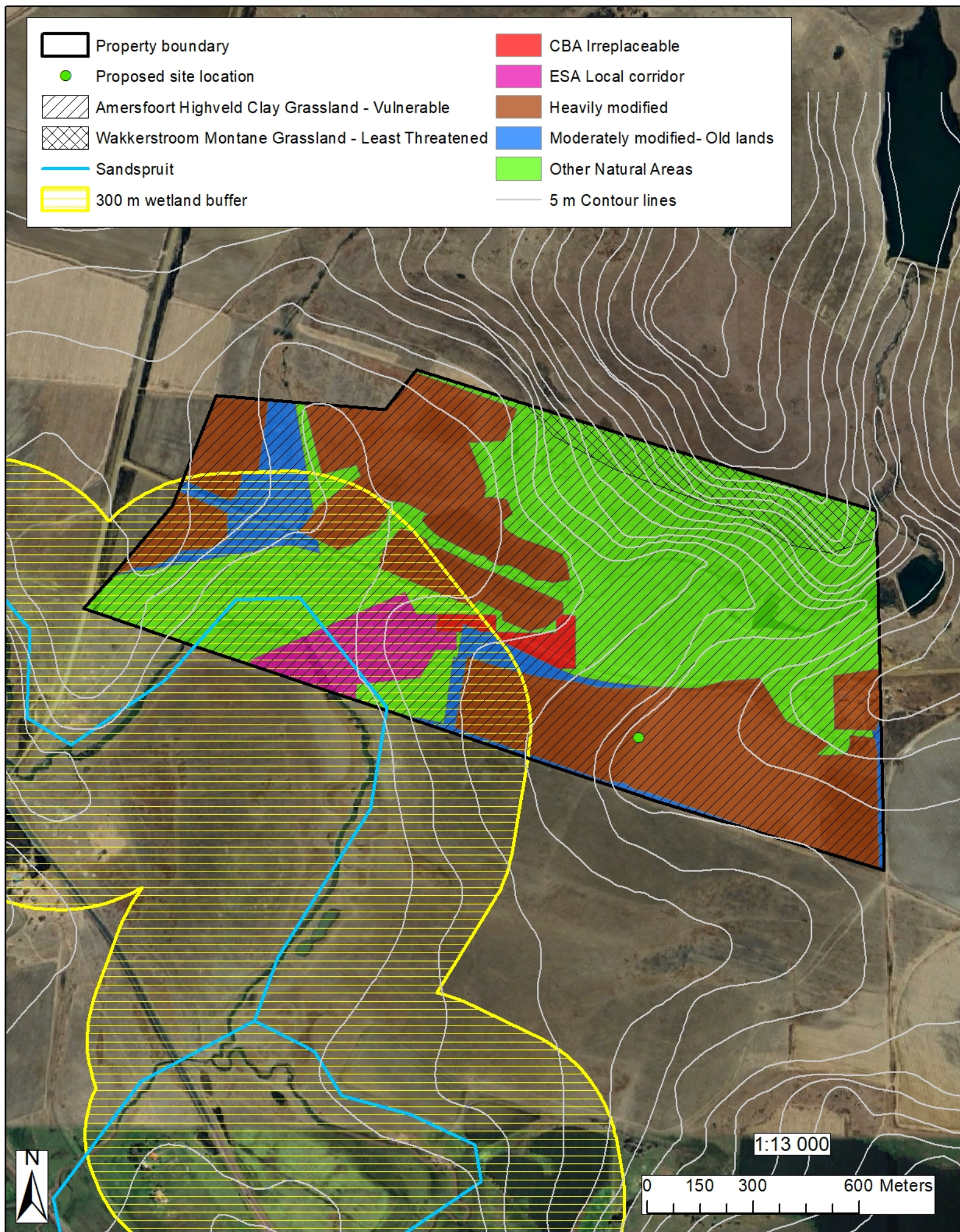
Bucandi Environmental Solutions

Signed at Potchefstroom on this 15th day of February 2024.

Appendix A

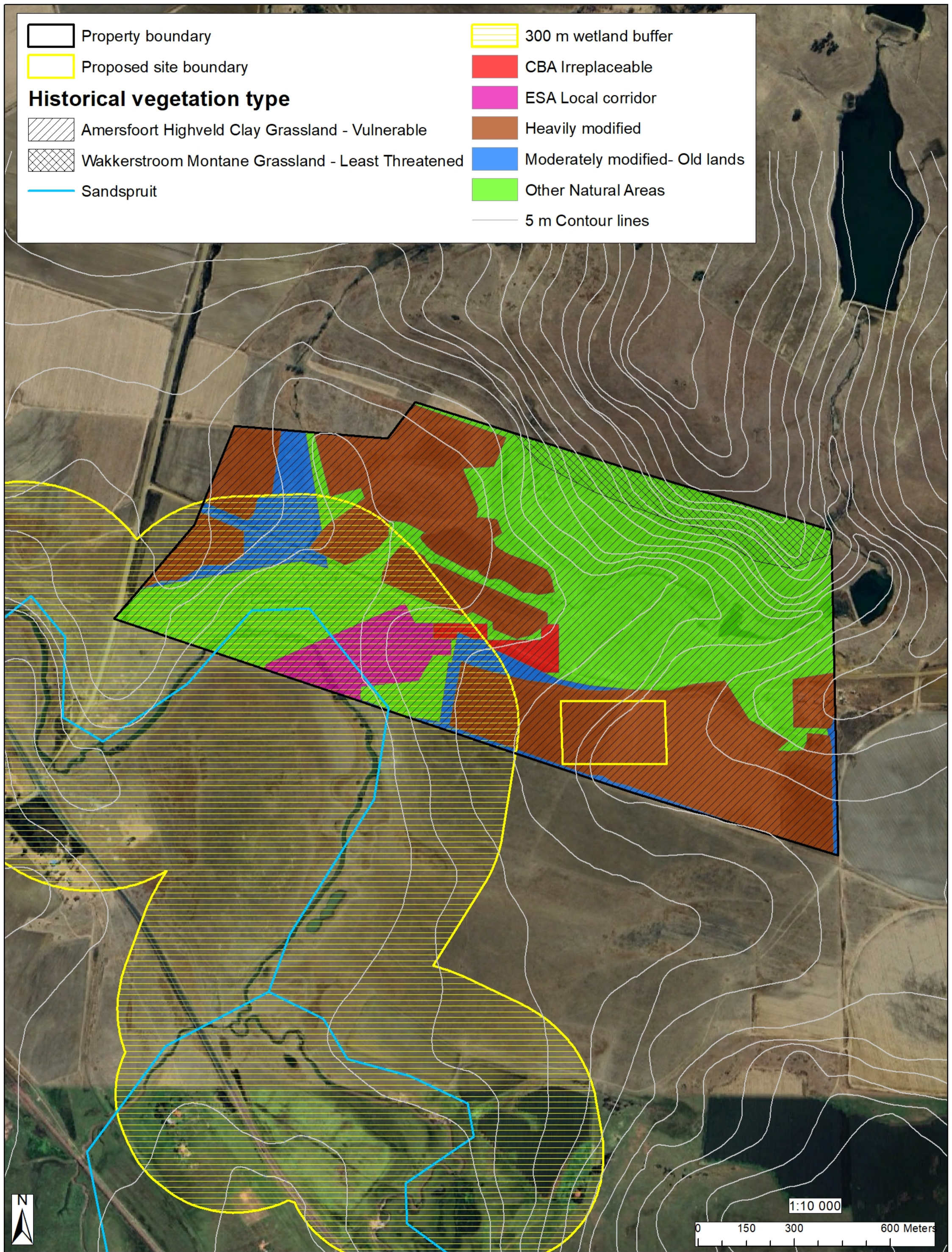
Maps

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  Property boundary |  CBA Irreplaceable |
|  Proposed site location |  ESA Local corridor |
|  Amersfoort Highveld Clay Grassland - Vulnerable |  Heavily modified |
|  Wakkerstroom Montane Grassland - Least Threatened |  Moderately modified- Old lands |
|  Sandspruit |  Other Natural Areas |
|  300 m wetland buffer |  5 m Contour lines |



Ecological sensitivity map for the proposed development on
Portion 17 of the farm Dassiesklip 109 HS

February 2024
Created by:



Layout plan for the proposed development onPortion 17 of the farm Dassiesklip 109 HR




Locality Map

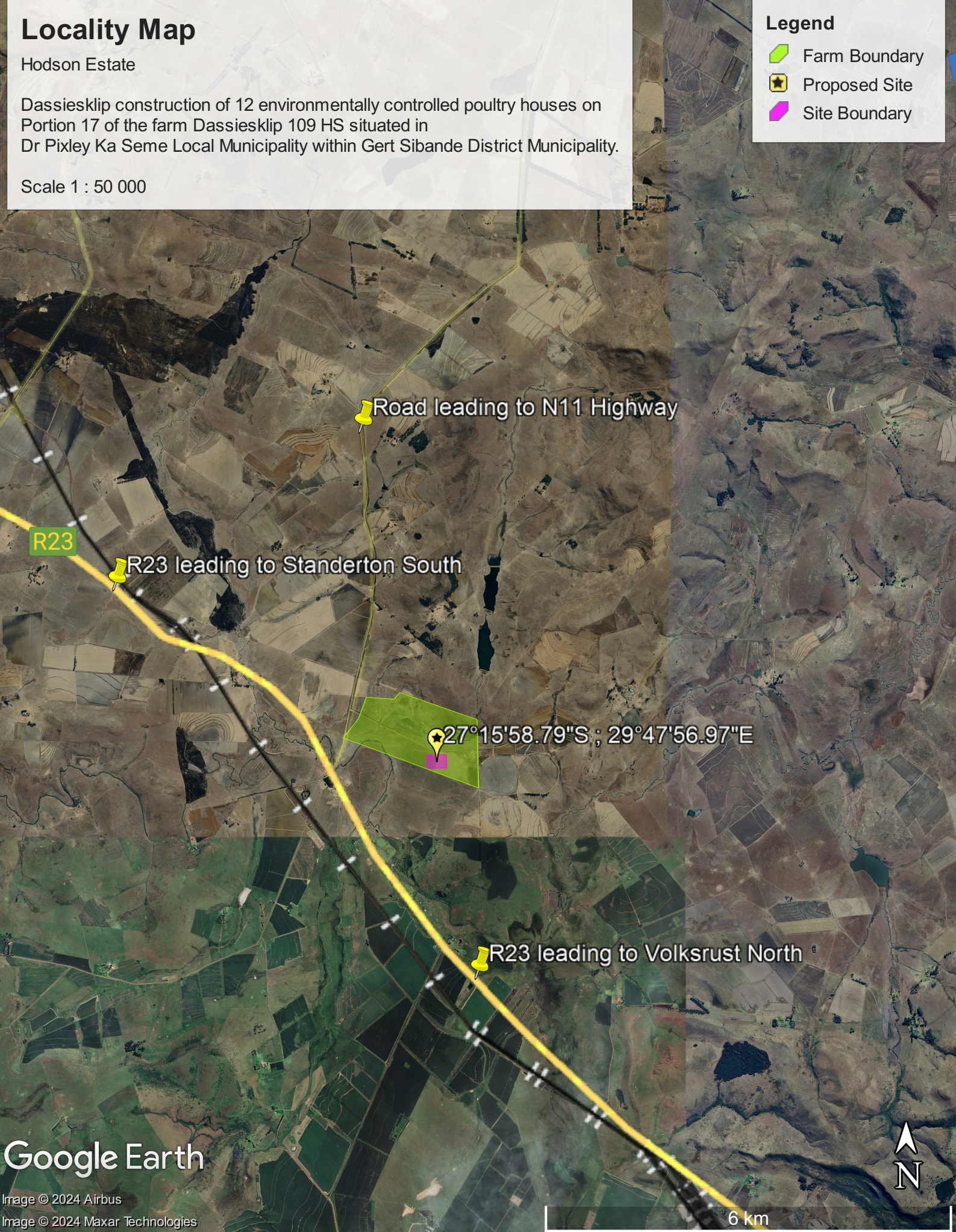
Hodson Estate

Dassiesklip construction of 12 environmentally controlled poultry houses on Portion 17 of the farm Dassiesklip 109 HS situated in Dr Pixley Ka Seme Local Municipality within Gert Sibande District Municipality.

Scale 1 : 50 000

Legend

-  Farm Boundary
-  Proposed Site
-  Site Boundary



Appendix B

Photographs

Site photographs

Site 1



Direction North



Direction Northeast



Direction East



Direction Southeast



Direction South



Direction Southwest



Direction West




Direction Northwest


Appendix C


Facility Illustrations


Hodson Estate





-  2.4m Electric Fence
-  Ablution
-  House
-  Office
-  Power Line
-  Silo
-  Truck Road
-  Water Line
-  Water Tanks/Reservoirs

 2.4m Electric Fence

 Ablution

 House

 Office

 Power Line Silo Truck Road Water Line

Water Tanks/Reservoirs

Google Earth

Image © 2024 Airbus



100 m

Appendix D1

Advertisement placed in “Beeld” on 16 October 2023



ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS

Notice is given in terms of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations Listing Notice 1 of 2014 of Government Notice No. 327 in Government Gazette No. 38282 of 4 December 2014 as amended under the National Environmental Management Act, Act 107 of 1998 of intent to carry out the following activity:

Listing Notice 1

(ACTIVITY NO. 5) The development and related operation of facilities or infrastructure for the

concentration of (ii) more than 5 000 poultry per facility situated outside an urban area, excluding

chicks younger than 20 days (iv) more than 25 000 chicks younger than 20 days per facility situated outside an urban area.

(ACTIVITY NO. 27) The clearance of an area of 1 hectare 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

(ACTIVITY NO. 28) Residential, mixed, retail, commercial, industrial or institutional developments where such land was used for agriculture, game farming, equestrian purposes or afforestation

on or after 01 April 1998 and where such development: (ii) will occur outside an urban area, where the total land to be developed is bigger than 1 hectare;

Listing Notice 3

(ACTIVITY NO. 12) The clearance of an area of 300 square meters or more of indigenous vegetation except where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan. (f)

Mpumalanga (ii) Within critical biodiversity areas identified in bioregional plans

PROJECT TITLE AND DESCRIPTION:

Dassiesklip construction of 12 environmentally controlled poultry houses.

LOCATION: Portion 17 of the farm Dassiesklip 109 HR situated in Dr Pixley Ka Seme Local Municipality within Gert Sibande District Municipality.

OFFICIAL: Mpumalanga Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism, Telephone number 013 692 5806.

CONSULTANT: Bucandi Environmental Solutions, PO Box 317, Viljoenskroon, 9520. Tel 076 422 3484, Fax 086 551 1894,

E-Mail info@bucandi.co.za

DATE OF NOTICE: 16 October 2023 In order to ensure that you are identified as an Interested or Affected Party, please submit your name, contact information and environmental interest in the matter to the consultant before 16 November 2023.

DASSIEKLIP 109 HR PTN 17

OKT 16(BCS)4045

Appendix D-2

Site notices

Site notices





Appendix D-3

Proof of letters to stakeholders

Dear Charles Hodsdon

16 October 2023

Hodsdon Estate is planning the construction of 12 environmentally controlled poultry houses. on Portion 17 of the farm Dassiesklip 109 HR situated in Dr Pixley Ka Seme Local Municipality within Gert Sibande District Municipality. According to the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998) I am hereby, as the EAP, providing you with official notice of the intended project. Please note that you have thirty (30) days to table any concerns or questions regarding the project in writing to me. I trust that you will find everything in order. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

The following is the legal notice that was placed in the newspaper (Beeld).

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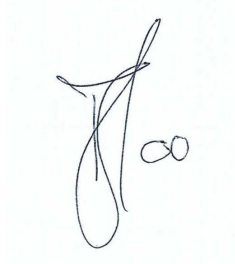
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Best regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'H len Prinsloo', with a stylized flourish at the end.

H len Prinsloo
Ecologist and owner

Dear Charles Hodsdon Snr

16 October 2023

Hodsdon Estate is planning the construction of 12 environmentally controlled poultry houses. on Portion 17 of the farm Dassiesklip 109 HR situated in Dr Pixley Ka Seme Local Municipality within Gert Sibande District Municipality. According to the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998) I am hereby, as the EAP, providing you with official notice of the intended project. Please note that you have thirty (30) days to table any concerns or questions regarding the project in writing to me. I trust that you will find everything in order. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

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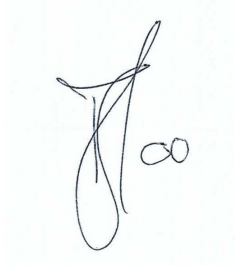
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Best regards

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light blue background. The signature is stylized, starting with a large 'H' and ending with a small circle.

H  len Prinsloo
Ecologist and owner

To Whom it may concern

16 October 2023

Hodsdon Estate is planning the construction of 12 environmentally controlled poultry houses. on Portion 17 of the farm Dassiesklip 109 HR situated in Dr Pixley Ka Seme Local Municipality within Gert Sibande District Municipality. According to the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998) I am hereby, as the EAP, providing you with official notice of the intended project. Please note that you have thirty (30) days to table any concerns or questions regarding the project in writing to me. I trust that you will find everything in order. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

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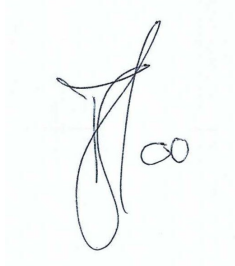
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Best regards

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H  len Prinsloo
Ecologist and owner

Dear Sibonelo Ndlela

16 October 2023

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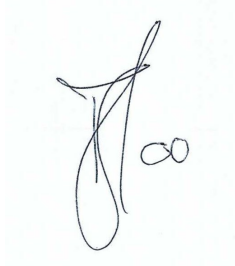
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H  len Prinsloo
Ecologist and owner

Dear Portia Chawane

16 October 2023

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ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS

2014 of Government Notice No. 327 in Government Gazette No. 38282 of 4 December 2014 as amended under the National Environmental Management Act, Act 107 of 1998 of intent to carry out the following activity:

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PROJECT TITLE AND DESCRIPTION: Dassiesklip construction of 12 environmentally controlled poultry houses.

LOCATION: Portion 17 of the farm Dassiesklip 109 HR situated in Dr Pixley Ka Seme Local Municipality within Gert Sibande District Municipality.

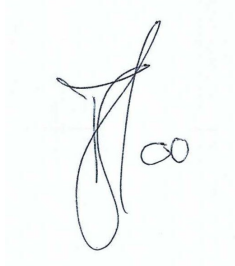
OFFICIAL: Mpumalanga Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism, Telephone number 013 692 5806.

CONSULTANT: Bucandi Environmental Solutions, PO Box 317, Viljoenskroon, 9520. Tel 076 422 3484, Fax 086 551 1894, E-Mail info@bucandi.co.za

[Type text]

DATE OF NOTICE: 16 October 2023 In order to ensure that you are identified as an Interested or Affected Party, please submit your name, contact information and environmental interest in the matter to the consultant before 16 November 2023.

Best regards

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Ecologist and owner

Dear Isaiah Dladla

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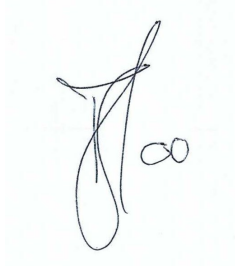
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H len Prinsloo
Ecologist and owner

From: [Marika Smook](#)
To: ["sibonelon@pixleykaseme.co.za"](mailto:sibonelon@pixleykaseme.co.za)
Subject: Hodsdon Dbar Dropbox link
Date: Tuesday, 20 February 2024 10:32:00

Good Afternoon

Please see below a Dropbox link for the **Draft Basic Assessment Report** for the proposed **Hodsdon Poultry** facility. Please find the information letter attached.

<https://www.dropbox.com/t/PL4933Si5bgPATPu>

Any Questions or Queries, please contact **Marika Smook** on **076 422 3484** or email info@bucandi.co.za

Kind Regards/Vriendelike Groete

Marika Smook
Bucandi Environmental Solutions
076 422 3484



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Kind Regards/Vriendelike Groete

Marika Smook
Bucandi Environmental Solutions
076 422 3484



From: [Marika Smook](#)
To: ["LUAhelppdesk@dalrrd.gov.za"](#); ["MashuduMa@dalrrd.gov.za"](#); ["MpumeN@dalrrd.gov.za"](#)
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Kind Regards/Vriendelike Groete

Marika Smook
Bucandi Environmental Solutions
076 422 3484



From: [Marika Smook](#)
To: ["info@mtpa.co.za"](mailto:info@mtpa.co.za); ["nomfundo.mnisi@mtpa.co.za"](mailto:nomfundo.mnisi@mtpa.co.za)
Subject: Hodsdon Dbar Dropbox link
Date: Tuesday, 20 February 2024 10:31:00

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Kind Regards/Vriendelike Groete

Marika Smook
Bucandi Environmental Solutions
076 422 3484



From: [Marika Smook](#)
To: ["IsaiahD@gsibande.gov.za"](mailto:IsaiahD@gsibande.gov.za)
Subject: Hodsdon Dbar Dropbox link
Date: Tuesday, 20 February 2024 10:31:00

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Kind Regards/Vriendelike Groete

Marika Smook
Bucandi Environmental Solutions
076 422 3484



From: [Marika Smook](#)
To: ["ouise61254@gmail.com"](mailto:ouise61254@gmail.com)
Subject: Hodsdon Dbar Dropbox link
Date: Tuesday, 20 February 2024 10:31:00

Good Afternoon

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Kind Regards/Vriendelike Groete

Marika Smook
Bucandi Environmental Solutions
076 422 3484



From: [Marika Smook](#)
To: ["Charleshodsdon@vodamail.co.za"](mailto:Charleshodsdon@vodamail.co.za); [Charles Hosdon](#)
Subject: Hodsdon Dbar Dropbox link
Date: Tuesday, 20 February 2024 10:30:00

Good Afternoon

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Kind Regards/Vriendelike Groete

Marika Smook
Bucandi Environmental Solutions
076 422 3484



From: [Marika Smook](#)
To: ["Hodsdoncw@gmail.com"](mailto:Hodsdoncw@gmail.com)
Subject: Hodsdon Dbar Dropbox link
Date: Tuesday, 20 February 2024 10:30:00

Good Afternoon

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Kind Regards/Vriendelike Groete

Marika Smook
Bucandi Environmental Solutions
076 422 3484



From: [Marika Smook](#)
To: ["matsebaem@dws.gov.za"](#); ["ChawaneP@dws.gov.za"](#); ["mphahleler@dwa.gov.za"](#); ["jaseb@dws.gov.za"](#)
Subject: Hodsdon Dbar Dropbox link
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Marika Smook
Bucandi Environmental Solutions
076 422 3484



From: [Marika Smook](#)
To: ["sibonelon@pixleykaseme.co.za"](mailto:sibonelon@pixleykaseme.co.za)
Subject: Information Letter Hodsdon Estate (Dassiesklip)
Date: Tuesday, 17 October 2023 11:57:00
Attachments: [Ward 4.pdf](#)

Good day

Please find attached a letter of information for your attention.

Please feel free to contact me with any queries.

Kind Regards/Vriendelike Groete

Marika Smook
Bucandi Environmental Solutions
076 422 3484



From: [Marika Smook](#)
To: ["sibonelon@pixleykaseme.co.za"](mailto:sibonelon@pixleykaseme.co.za)
Subject: Information Letter Hodsdon Estate (Dassiesklip)
Date: Tuesday, 17 October 2023 11:56:00
Attachments: [Dr Pixley Ka Isaka Seme Local Municipality.pdf](#)

Good day

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Kind Regards/Vriendelike Groete

Marika Smook
Bucandi Environmental Solutions
076 422 3484



From: [Marika Smook](#)
To: ["LUAhelpdesk@dalrrd.gov.za"](#); ["MashuduMa@dalrrd.gov.za"](#); ["MpumeN@dalrrd.gov.za"](#)
Subject: Information Letter Hodsdon Estate (Dassiesklip)
Date: Tuesday, 17 October 2023 11:56:00
Attachments: [Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development.pdf](#)

Good day

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Kind Regards/Vriendelike Groete

Marika Smook
Bucandi Environmental Solutions
076 422 3484



From: [Marika Smook](#)
To: ["info@mtpa.co.za"; "nomfundo.mnisi@mtpa.co.za"](#)
Subject: Information Letter Hodsdon Estate (Dassiesklip)
Date: Tuesday, 17 October 2023 11:55:00
Attachments: [Mpumalanga Tourism & Parks Agency.pdf](#)

Good day

Please find attached a letter of information for your attention.

Please feel free to contact me with any queries.

Kind Regards/Vriendelike Groete

Marika Smook
Bucandi Environmental Solutions
076 422 3484



From: [Marika Smook](#)
To: ["IsaiahD@gsibande.gov.za"](mailto:IsaiahD@gsibande.gov.za)
Subject: Information Letter Hodsdon Estate (Dassiesklip)
Date: Tuesday, 17 October 2023 11:55:00
Attachments: [Gert Sibande District Municipality.pdf](#)

Good day

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Kind Regards/Vriendelike Groete

Marika Smook
Bucandi Environmental Solutions
076 422 3484



From: [Marika Smook](#)
To: ["Louise61254@gmail.com"](mailto:Louise61254@gmail.com)
Subject: Information Letter Hodsdon Estate (Dassiesklip)
Date: Tuesday, 17 October 2023 11:55:00
Attachments: [Louisa Deetkliff.pdf](#)

Good day

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Bucandi Environmental Solutions
076 422 3484



From: [Marika Smook](#)
To: ["Charleshodsdon@vodamail.co.za"](mailto:Charleshodsdon@vodamail.co.za); [Charles Hosdon](#)
Subject: Information Letter Hodsdon Estate (Dassiesklip)
Date: Tuesday, 17 October 2023 11:54:00
Attachments: [Charles Hodsdon Snr.pdf](#)

Good day

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Kind Regards/Vriendelike Groete

Marika Smook
Bucandi Environmental Solutions
076 422 3484



From: [Marika Smook](#)
To: ["Hodsdoncw@gmail.com"](mailto:Hodsdoncw@gmail.com)
Subject: Information Letter Hodsdon Estate (Dassiesklip)
Date: Tuesday, 17 October 2023 11:54:00
Attachments: [Charles Hodsdon Jnr.pdf](#)

Good day

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Bucandi Environmental Solutions
076 422 3484



From: [Marika Smook](#)
To: ["matsebaem@dws.gov.za"](#); ["ChawaneP@dws.gov.za"](#); ["mphahleler@dwa.gov.za"](#)
Subject: Information Letter Hodsdon Estate (Dassiesklip)
Date: Tuesday, 17 October 2023 11:57:00
Attachments: [DWS.pdf](#)

Good day

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Marika Smook
Bucandi Environmental Solutions
076 422 3484



Dear Louisa Deetkliff

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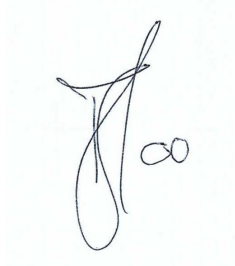
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CONSULTANT: Bucandi Environmental Solutions, PO Box 317, Viljoenskroon, 9520. Tel 076 422 3484, Fax 086 551 1894, E-Mail info@bucandi.co.za

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Best regards

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light blue background. The signature is stylized, starting with a large 'H' and ending with a small circular flourish.

H  len Prinsloo
Ecologist and owner

To Whom it may concern

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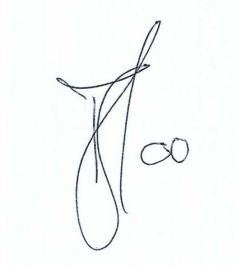
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H len Prinsloo
Ecologist and owner

From: [Marika Smook](#)
To: ["Tebogo Mogakabe"](#)
Cc: ["Lindokuhle Magagula"](#); ["Isaiah Dladla"](#); ["Silindile Mdluli"](#); ["Silindile Mdluli"](#)
Subject: RE: Information Letter Hodsdon Estate (Dassiesklip)
Date: Tuesday, 17 October 2023 13:01:00

Good day Tebogo

We are still in the public participation process. As soon as we are ready to with the Draft Basic Assessment report I will send it on.

Kind Regards/Vriendelike Groete

Marika Smook
Bucandi Environmental Solutions
076 422 3484



From: Tebogo Mogakabe <TebogoM@gsibande.gov.za>
Sent: Tuesday, 17 October 2023 12:52
To: info@bucandi.co.za
Cc: Lindokuhle Magagula <LindokuhleM@gsibande.gov.za>; Isaiah Dladla <IsaiahD@gsibande.gov.za>; Silindile Mdluli <SilindileM@gsibande.gov.za>; Silindile Mdluli <silindi64@gmail.com>
Subject: RE: Information Letter Hodsdon Estate (Dassiesklip)

Good day,

For commenting purposes towards the project as indicated, may you please share the applicable assessment report.

Regards,

Tebogo Mogakabe

From: Isaiah Dladla
Sent: Tuesday, October 17, 2023 11:58 AM
To: Tebogo Mogakabe <TebogoM@gsibande.gov.za>; Silindile Mdluli <SilindileM@gsibande.gov.za>; Silindile Mdluli <silindi64@gmail.com>
Subject: FW: Information Letter Hodsdon Estate (Dassiesklip)

Good day, Colleagues

Kindly receive the email below.

Regards,

Isaiah Dladla
Manager: Municipal Health Services
Gert Sibande District Municipality

Main: 017 801 7000
Office 017 801 7112
Cell: 071 609 9219
Email: IsaiahD@gsibande.gov.za
Website: www.gsibande.gov.za

Corner of Joubert & Oosthuise Streets
Ermelo, 2351
PO Box 1748, Ermelo, 2350
VAT REG: 4960107086
S26 31' 25.73" E29 58' 19.25"
www.gsibande.gov.za



Save a tree. Don't print this e-mail unless it's really necessary

From: Marika Smook [<mailto:info@bucandi.co.za>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 17, 2023 11:55 AM
To: Isaiah Dladla <IsaiahD@gsibande.gov.za>
Subject: Information Letter Hodsdon Estate (Dassiesklip)

Good day

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Kind Regards/Vriendelike Groete

Marika Smook
Bucandi Environmental Solutions
076 422 3484





Virus-free www.avast.com

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PROJECT TITLE AND DESCRIPTION: Dassiesklip construction of 12 environmentally controlled poultry houses.

LOCATION: Portion 17 of the farm Dassiesklip 109 HR situated in Dr Pixley Ka Seme Local Municipality within Gert Sibande District Municipality.

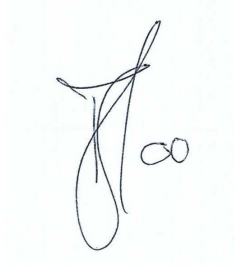
OFFICIAL: Mpumalanga Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism, Telephone number 013 692 5806.

CONSULTANT: Bucandi Environmental Solutions, PO Box 317, Viljoenskroon, 9520. Tel 076 422 3484, Fax 086 551 1894, E-Mail info@bucandi.co.za

[Type text]

DATE OF NOTICE: 16 October 2023 In order to ensure that you are identified as an Interested or Affected Party, please submit your name, contact information and environmental interest in the matter to the consultant before 16 November 2023.

Best regards

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light blue background. The signature is stylized, starting with a large 'H' and ending with a small circle.

H  len Prinsloo
Ecologist and owner

Appendix D4

Comments and responses report

Comments and responses report

1. Interested and Affected Parties

Name	Telephone number	Email address	Comments received (Y/N)	Relevant section
Charles Hodsdon - Jnr	0825501580	Hodsdoncw@gmail.com	N	N/A
Charles Hodsdon - Snr	0825646003	Charleshodsdon@vodamail.co.za	N	N/A
Louisa Deetkliff	0827014446	Louise61254@gmail.com	N	N/A
Gert Sibande District Municipality (Isaiah Dladla)	017 801 7008 071 609 9219	cnr Joubert and Oosthuizen Streets, SECUNDA, 2302 IsaiahD@gsibande.gov.za	N	N/A
Mpumalanga Tourism & Parks Agency	013 759 5300	info@mtpa.co.za nomfundo.mnisi@mtpa.co.za	N	N/A
Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development	012 312 8911/ 012 319 6000	LUAhelppdesk@dalrrd.gov.za MashuduMa@dalrrd.gov.za MpumeN@dalrrd.gov.za	N	N/A
Dr Pixley Ka Isaka Seme Local Municipality (Sibonelo Ndlela, Mr)	017 734 6100 / 017 734 6101	Private Bag X9011, Volksrust, 2470 sibonelon@pixleykaseme.co.za		
Dr Pixley Ka Seme Ward 4	017 734 6100 / 017 734 6101	Private Bag X9011, Volksrust, 2470 sibonelon@pixleykaseme.co.za	N	N/A
DWS (Portia Chawane) or Mphahlele Rabokale	012 392 1374 012 392 1433	matsebaem@dws.gov.za ChawaneP@dws.gov.za mphahleler@dwa.gov.za Private Bag X995 Pretoria 0001	N	N/A

2. On the 16th of October 2023 a notice was placed in the Beeld and on the 16th of October 2023 letters were sent via email to all the stakeholders. No comments were received. Copies of the DBAR will be circulated on to all the I&APs. All comments were received will be incorporated in the FBAR. No comments were received. Copies of the FBAR will be circulated to all I&AP's.

Appendix D-5

List of registered I&APs

List of registered I & AP

Name	Contact Details	Designation	Comments received (Y/N)	Relevant section
Charles Hodsdon - Jnr	0825501580	Neighbour	N	N/A
Charles Hodsdon - Snr	0825646003	Neighbour	N	N/A
Louisa Deetkliff	0827014446	Neighbour	N	N/A
Gert Sibande District Municipality (Isaiah Dladla)	017 801 7008 071 609 9219	District Municipality	N	N/A
Mpumalanga Tourism & Parks Agency	013 759 5300	Local Authority	N	N/A
Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development	012 312 8911/ 012 319 6000	National Authority	N	N/A
Dr Pixley Ka Isaka Seme Local Municipality (Sibonelo Ndlela, Mr)	017 734 6100 / 017 734 6101	Local Municipality	N	N/A
Dr Pixley Ka Seme Ward 4	017 734 6100 / 017 734 6101	Local Municipality	N	N/A
DWS (Portia Chawane) <u>OR</u> Mphahlele Rabokale	012 392 1374 012 392 1433	National Authority	N	N/A

Appendix E
Environmental Management Programme

Environmental Management Programme

for

HODSDON ESTATE
REF No: 1/3/1/16/1 G-320

Prepared by:

Bucandi Environmental Solutions



Project Manager: Dr. H len Prinsloo (D. Tech)
EAPASA 2022/5586
(Pr.Sci.Nat.) Reg. No. 400108/11 (SACNASP)

February 2024

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1. DETAILS OF THE EAP

a) Contact details of EAP

Name of The Practitioner: Dr H len Prinsloo

Tel No.: 076 682 4369

Fax No. : 086 551 1894

e-mail address: helen@bucandi.co.za

b) Expertise of the EAP

The qualifications of the EAP

D. Tech (Nature Conservation)

Summary of the EAP's past experience.

15 years' experience with environmental impact assessments, 3 years in the USA, 12 years in South Africa.

Please see CV attached as Appendix G of the Basic Assessment Report.

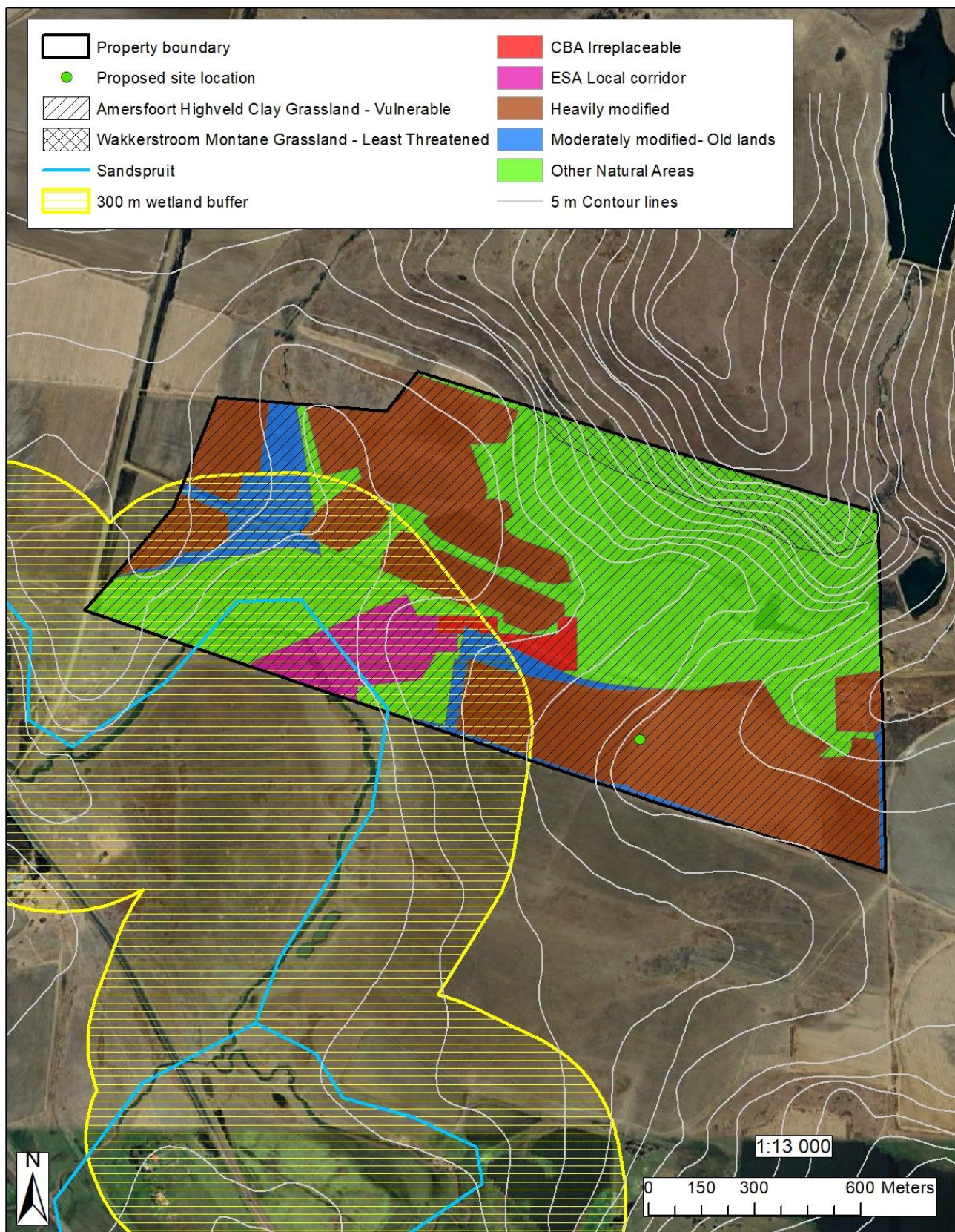
2. DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF ASPECTS

Poultry Houses:

Hodsdon Estate is proposing the construction of 12 environmentally controlled poultry houses with the capacity for 50 000 chickens per house on Portion 17 of the farm Dassiesklip 109 HR situated in Dr Pixley Ka Seme Local Municipality within Gert Sibande District Municipality

Listing Notice 1	
(ACTIVITY NO. 5) The development and related operation of facilities or infrastructure for the concentration of (ii) more than 5 000 poultry per facility situated outside an urban area, excluding chicks younger than 20 days and (iv) more than 25 000 chicks younger than 20 days per facility situated outside an urban area.	The activity will entail the construction of 12 environmentally controlled poultry houses (16.5 m x 135 m each) with capacity for 50 000 birds per house, totalling 600 000 birds.
(ACTIVITY NO. 28) Residential, mixed, retail, commercial, industrial or institutional development where such land was used for agriculture, game farming, equestrian purposes or afforestation on or after 01 April 1998 and where such development (ii) will occur outside an urban area, where the total land to be developed is bigger than 1 hectare.	The clearance of 5.7 ha of agricultural land (Partially <i>Eragrostis curvula</i> and partially maizefield), located in an area that is classified as Heavily modified area. Earthworks on 5.7 ha to prepare for 12 poultry houses.

3. ECOLOGICAL SENSITIVITY MAP OF PREFERRED SITE



Ecological sensitivity map for the proposed development on Portion 17 of the farm Dassiesklip 109 HS

February 2024
Created by:



4. IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

a) Impacts identified for preferred alternative

Activity	Impact summary	Significance		Proposed mitigation
		Before mitigation	After mitigation	
Clearance of agricultural land	Air pollution on a local level.	Low	Low	Dust control by means of watering if necessary. Vehicles to be regularly serviced and well-tuned. Operations to be undertaken during working hours only.
	Contamination of soils, surface water and groundwater due to leakages from vehicles entering and exiting the site.	Low	Low	Machinery must be properly maintained at all times. Servicing of machinery must take place only in specific demarcated and protected areas. Measures must be taken for the proper disposal of oils, grease, oil filters, rags, etc.
	Soil compaction and loss of fertility.	Low	Low	Appropriate measures must be taken to reduce the risk of erosion from unprotected slopes i.e., diversion berms, ponding pools, and not exceeding angles of repose of stockpiled material. All unprotected slopes must be rehabilitated concurrent with construction.
	Disturbance of fauna	Medium	Low	Only the preferred site should be used for construction and operational activities. This site is located on an agricultural land and will contain minimal fauna. No fauna found on the site will be killed.
	Disturbance of flora	High	Medium	Only the preferred site should be used for construction and operation of the facility. The preferred site is located on an agricultural field and utilisation of this site will not have an impact on flora.
	Safety on the construction site	High	Low	Access to the construction site to be controlled at all times.
	Degradation of aesthetics	High	Low	If needed, an additional line of

Activity	Impact summary	Significance		Proposed mitigation
		Before mitigation	After mitigation	
				trees will be planted to minimise visual impact.
	Providing employment opportunities to the local community	High	High	No mitigation proposed.
Utilisation of agricultural land	Air pollution on a local level.	Low	Low	Dust control by means of watering if necessary. Vehicles to be regularly serviced and well-tuned. Operations to be undertaken during working hours only.
	Contamination of soils, surface water and groundwater due to leakages from vehicles entering and exiting the site.	Low	Low	Machinery must be properly maintained at all times. Servicing of machinery must take place only in specific demarcated and protected areas. Measures must be taken for the proper disposal of oils, grease, oil filters, rags, etc.
	Soil compaction and loss of fertility.	Low	Low	Appropriate measures must be taken to reduce the risk of erosion from unprotected slopes i.e., diversion berms, ponding pools, and not exceeding angles of repose of stockpiled material. All unprotected slopes must be rehabilitated concurrent with construction.
	Disturbance of fauna	Medium	Low	Only the preferred site should be used for construction and operational activities. This site is located on an agricultural land and will contain minimal fauna. No fauna found on the site will be killed.
	Disturbance of flora	High	Medium	Only the preferred site should be used for construction and operation of the facility. The preferred site is located on an agricultural field and utilisation of this site will not have an impact on flora.
	Safety on the construction site	High	Low	Access to the construction site to be controlled at all

Activity	Impact summary	Significance		Proposed mitigation
		Before mitigation	After mitigation	
				times.
	Degradation of aesthetics	High	Low	If needed, an additional line of trees will be planted to minimise visual impact.
	Providing employment opportunities to the local community	High	High	No mitigation proposed.
Earthworks	Air pollution on a local level.	Low	Low	Dust control by means of watering if necessary. Vehicles to be regularly serviced and well-tuned. Operations to be undertaken during working hours only.
	Contamination of soils, surface water and groundwater due to leakages from vehicles entering and exiting the site.	Low	Low	Machinery must be properly maintained at all times. Servicing of machinery must take place only in specific demarcated and protected areas. Measures must be taken for the proper disposal of oils, grease, oil filters, rags, etc.
	Soil compaction and loss of fertility.	Low	Low	Appropriate measures must be taken to reduce the risk of erosion from unprotected slopes i.e., diversion berms, ponding pools, and not exceeding angles of repose of stockpiled material. All unprotected slopes must be rehabilitated concurrent with construction.
	Increased fire risk	Low	Low	Cooking and heating fires permitted only in designated areas with appropriate safety measures. Adequate firefighting equipment must be available, as prescribed by the relevant safety standards and legislation.
	Disturbance of fauna	Medium	Low	Only the preferred site should be used for construction and operational activities. This site is located on an agricultural land and will contain minimal fauna. No fauna found on the site will be killed.

Activity	Impact summary	Significance		Proposed mitigation
		Before mitigation	After mitigation	
	Disturbance of flora	High	Medium	Only the preferred site should be used for construction and operation of the facility. The preferred site is located on an agricultural field and utilisation of this site will not have an impact on flora.
	Safety on the construction site	High	Low	Access to the construction site to be controlled at all times.
	Degradation of aesthetics	High	Low	If needed, an additional line of trees will be planted to minimise visual impact.
	Providing employment opportunities to the local community	High	High	No mitigation proposed.
Construction of poultry facility	Air pollution on a local level.	Low	Low	Dust control by means of watering if necessary. Vehicles to be regularly serviced and well-tuned. Operations to be undertaken during working hours only.
	Contamination of soils, surface water and groundwater due to leakages from vehicles entering and exiting the site.	Low	Low	Machinery must be properly maintained at all times. Servicing of machinery must take place only in specific demarcated and protected areas. Measures must be taken for the proper disposal of oils, grease, oil filters, rags, etc.
	Pollution of soil, surface water and groundwater due to ineffective management of sewage and general waste management.	Medium	Low	Proper ablution facilities must be provided i.e. chemical toilets at appropriate locations on site if necessary or existing facilities must be used. Workers must be made aware of the risk of soil water contamination. Domestic waste must be disposed of in appropriate containers, and removed to the nearest municipal waste-disposal site as part of existing waste management system.
	Soil compaction and loss of fertility.	Low	Low	Appropriate measures must be taken to reduce the risk of

Activity	Impact summary	Significance		Proposed mitigation
		Before mitigation	After mitigation	
				erosion from unprotected slopes i.e., diversion berms, ponding pools, and not exceeding angles of repose of stockpiled material. All unprotected slopes must be rehabilitated concurrent with construction.
	Increased fire risk	Low	Low	Cooking and heating fires permitted only in designated areas with appropriate safety measures. Adequate firefighting equipment must be available, as prescribed by the relevant safety standards and legislation.
	Disturbance of fauna	Medium	Low	Only the preferred site should be used for construction and operational activities. This site is located on an agricultural land and will contain minimal fauna. No fauna found on the site will be killed.
	Disturbance of flora	High	Medium	Only the preferred site should be used for construction and operation of the facility. The preferred site is located on an agricultural field and utilisation of this site will not have an impact on flora.
	Safety on the construction site	High	Low	Access to the construction site to be controlled at all times.
	Degradation of aesthetics	High	Low	If needed, an additional line of trees will be planted to minimise visual impact.
	Providing employment opportunities to the local community	High	High	No mitigation proposed.
Operation of poultry facility	Pollution of soil, surface water and groundwater due to ineffective management of sewage and general waste management.	Medium	Low	Proper ablution facilities must be provided i.e. chemical toilets at appropriate locations on site if necessary or existing facilities must be used. Workers must be made aware of the risk of soil water contamination. Domestic

Activity	Impact summary	Significance		Proposed mitigation
		Before mitigation	After mitigation	
				waste must be disposed of in appropriate containers, and removed to the nearest municipal waste-disposal site as part of existing waste management system.
	Pollution of soil, surface water and groundwater due to ineffective manure disposal.	Medium	Low	After the completion of each cycle, all chickens are caught and the manure and litter are then scooped up using a bobcat. The manure is loaded onto a closed truck and taken to agricultural fields, owned by the applicant, where it is used as fertiliser. Manure should be handled according to Odour Management Plan (Appendix F2), Waste Management Plan (Appendix F3) and Biosecurity Plan (Appendix F4).
	Pollution of soil, surface water and groundwater due to ineffective disposal of mortalities.	Medium	Low	The mortalities are removed on a daily basis and collected by a predator farmer (Gielie Geldenhuys) to be used as food for wild animals and crocodiles. Mortalities should be handled according to Odour Management Plan (Appendix F2), Waste Management Plan (Appendix F3) and Biosecurity Plan (Appendix F4).
	Soil compaction and loss of fertility.	Low	Low	Appropriate measures must be taken to reduce the risk of erosion from unprotected slopes i.e., diversion berms, ponding pools, and not exceeding angles of repose of stockpiled material. All unprotected slopes must be rehabilitated concurrent with construction.
	Increased fire risk	Low	Low	Cooking and heating fires permitted only in designated areas with appropriate safety measures. Adequate firefighting equipment must

Activity	Impact summary	Significance		Proposed mitigation
		Before mitigation	After mitigation	
				be available, as prescribed by the relevant safety standards and legislation.
	Disturbance of fauna	Medium	Low	Only the preferred site should be used for construction and operational activities. This site is located on an agricultural land and will contain minimal fauna. No fauna found on the site will be killed.
	Degradation of aesthetics	High	Low	If needed, an additional line of trees will be planted to minimise visual impact.
	Providing employment opportunities to the local community	High	High	No mitigation proposed.

b) Timeframes and management of mitigation

The table below lists the activities identified, mitigation measures proposed, the person responsible for the management actions, timing of actions and objectives to be reached.

Activities	Environmental Objectives	Auditable Management and Mitigation Measures	√	Person Responsible	Timing	Requirement for "sign-off" report
Planning and Design Phase						
No environmental activity will take place during this phase.						
Construction Phase						
1. Clearance of agricultural land	Maintaining air quality and minimising disturbance caused by noise, dust and emissions.	Dust control by means of watering if necessary.		Charles Hodsdon	Ongoing	Confirm compliance and justify emissions
2. Utilisation of agricultural land		Vehicles to be regularly serviced and well-tuned.			Ongoing	
		Operations to be undertaken during working hours only.			Ongoing	
3. Earthworks	Protecting the quality of surface and ground water.	Machinery should be properly maintained at all times.		Charles Hodsdon	Ongoing	Initialise water monitoring to take place at least quarterly.
4. Construction of poultry facility		Servicing of machinery should take place only in specific demarcated and protected areas.			Ongoing	
		Measures should be taken for the proper disposal of oils, grease, oil filters, rags, etc.			Ongoing	
	Controlling sewage and domestic waste disposal by workers.	Proper ablution facilities should be provided i.e. chemical toilets at appropriate locations on site if necessary; else existing facilities must be used.		Charles Hodsdon	Before onset of construction	Confirm compliance and monitor site to ensure that domestic waste and construction rubble has been removed.
		Workers should be made aware of the risk of soil water contamination.			Before onset of construction	
		Domestic waste should be disposed of in			Weekly	

Activities	Environmental Objectives	Auditable Management and Mitigation Measures	√	Person Responsible	Timing	Requirement for "sign-off" report
		appropriate containers, and removed to the nearest municipal waste-disposal site.				
	Preventing fires.	Cooking and heating fires permitted only in designated areas with appropriate safety measures.		Charles Hodsdon	Ongoing	Initialise and monitor a fire prevention and response plan.
		Adequate fire fighting equipment should be available, as prescribed by the relevant safety standards and legislation.			Ongoing	
	Minimising soil compaction, loss of fertility and erosion.	Appropriate measures should be taken to reduce the risk of erosion from unprotected slopes i.e. diversion berms, ponding pools, and not exceeding angles of repose of stockpiled material.		Charles Hodsdon	Ongoing	Confirm compliance.
		All unprotected slopes should be rehabilitated concurrent with construction.			Ongoing	
	Controlling the temporary disturbance of fauna.	Only the preferred site should be used for construction and operational activities. This site is located on an agricultural land and will contain minimal fauna.		Charles Hodsdon	Ongoing	Confirm compliance.
		No fauna found on the site will be killed.			Ongoing	
	Ensuring the safety of workers and the public.	Access to the construction site to be controlled at all times.		Charles Hodsdon	Ongoing	Erection of safety fence and controlled entry points to the site.
	Minimising visual and audible impacts that may occur as a result of vehicle exhausts, dust and noise from machinery.	If needed, an additional line of trees will be planted to minimise visual impact.		Charles Hodsdon	Before onset of construction	Establishment of a tree line.
Operational Phase						
1. Operation of	Managing the disposal of sewage, waste and litter.	Sewage from flush-toilets flows to a french drain.		Charles Hodsdon	Ongoing	Confirm compliance with

Activities	Environmental Objectives	Auditable Management and Mitigation Measures	√	Person Responsible	Timing	Requirement for "sign-off" report
poultry facility		Household waste is removed to the nearest authorised municipal landfill site.			Weekly	good practice.
		Litter is controlled by good practice.			Ongoing	
	Disposal of chicken manure	After the completion of each cycle, all chickens are caught and the manure and litter are then scooped up using a bobcat. The manure is loaded onto a closed truck and taken to agricultural fields, owned by the applicant, where it is used as fertiliser.		Charles Hodsdon	After each cycle	Confirm compliance after each cycle.
	Preventing wash water from contaminating surface and ground water.	Houses are washed after each cycle only after the removal of manure and mortalities.		Charles Hodsdon	After each cycle	Water quality to be tested quarterly.
		The houses are washed using a high pressure (16bar) sprayer, minimising the amount of water used.			After each cycle	
		Equipment is not washed with water, but rather using a foam sanitizer (F29) which is applied as dry foam and allowed to evaporate.			After each cycle	
	Disposal of mortalities.	The mortalities are removed on a daily basis and collected by a predator farmer (Gielie Geldenhuys) to be used as food for wild animals and crocodiles.		Charles Hodsdon	Daily	Confirm compliance.
	Minimising air pollution.	Manure in houses should be treated regularly to prevent excessive odours and flies. Fly control should include measures for control of adults as well as larvae.		Charles Hodsdon	Ongoing	Confirm compliance.
Decommissioning and Closure Phase						
This phase is not foreseen for this project.						

c) Monitoring and reporting

All activities identified and proposed mitigation measures should be monitored according to the following programme:

- Regular monitoring of all the environmental management measures and components must be carried out by the holder of the ROD in order to ensure that the provisions of this programme are adhered to.
- On-going and regular reporting of the progress of implementation of this programme will be done by the ECO.
- An ECO should be appointed to conduct external environmental audits every two month as long as construction is taking place and every six months once construction has been completed.

Roles and responsibilities for the execution of monitoring programmes

It is the responsibility of the holder of the ROD to appoint an ECO before any construction takes place. The ECO will then be responsible for environmental training of the contractors and employees, as well as the external environmental auditing according to the timeframe stipulated above.

Environmental Monitoring

Environmental Monitoring is the continuous evaluation of the status and condition of environmental elements. Its purpose is to detect change that takes place in the environment over time and involves the measuring and recording of physical, social and economic variables associated with development impacts. The purpose of the monitoring programme is not only to ensure conformance with the EMP through the contract/work instruction specifications but also to monitor environmental issues and impacts that have not been accounted for in the EMP that are, or could result in significant environmental impacts for which corrective action is required. Monitoring shall form part of the contract or work instruction.

Internal performance audits

It is recommended that the site manager undertake regular performance audits in accordance with the approved EMPr in which each environmental management specification will be rated in terms of the following criteria:

- Full Compliance (no action required)
- Satisfactory Performance (Some remedial/preventative actions required)
- Unsatisfactory performance (Remedial actions required)

The performance monitoring report must incorporate all compliance issues as well as corrective actions taken, permits, licenses and all contract documentation's conditions. These reports must be made available to the appointed Environmental Control Officer (ECO).

External Compliance Audits

An independent qualified ECO must be appointed to monitor the site and operations for compliance in accordance with the approved EMPr. The external compliance audits must be conducted on a two monthly basis during construction and a six monthly basis during operation.

The ultimate aim is that each environmental management specification be checked by means of a system in which a score may be allocated for:

- Full compliance
- Satisfactory performance
- Unsatisfactory performance
- No action

d) Environmental Awareness Plan

Environmental awareness training

Environmental awareness should be done as part of the induction training completed by all personnel working on the site. To ensure the training is always updated, placards containing information about environmental aspects will regularly be updated and distributed. If the ECO in his own discretion or the discretion of the site manager decide to update any environmental awareness training, he/ she will be able to do so at their own discretion.

It is recommended that the environmental awareness training be presented at least every 6 months to ensure the update of environmental goals in relation to current activities is communicated to the personnel.

The ability of the team to contain any environmental incidents is dependent on the management efficiency of the manager on site, and his ability to train and ensure his employees are knowledgeable about environmental impacts.

The contractors and applicant must ensure that adequate environmental training takes place. All employees shall have been given an induction presentation on environmental awareness. Where possible, the presentation needs to be conducted in the language of the employees. The environmental training should, as a minimum, include the following:

- Explanation of the importance of complying with the EMP;
- The construction must take place in ecological sound manner, taking due cognisance of the sensitive ecological areas in close vicinity of the site (i.e. drainage channel/streams).
- The need to protect and preserve the historical and archaeological heritage of the site.
- The importance of conformance with all environmental policies and procedures;
- The significant environmental impacts, actual or potential, as a result of their activities;
- The environmental benefits of improved personal performance;

Dealing with risks and accidents

The solution to the risks involved with prospecting operations is to have all the appropriate information and planning in place before the incident occurs. This is important to ensure the correct procedures and reporting structures are followed, and the appropriate remediation steps are followed. The approved EMP shall be available on site. This EMP contains all the management plans necessary to prevent or mitigate pollution or degradation of the environment. An Incident Register and a Complaints Register should be kept on site and completed in the case of any environmentally detrimental incident happening or complaints are received. These registers should be kept and included in the internal and external reports.

Appendix F-1

Storm water management plan

Recommendations for Storm Water Management

for

HODSDON ESTATE
REF No: 1/3/1/16/1 G-320

Prepared by:

Bucandi Environmental Solutions



Project Manager: Dr. H len Prinsloo (D. Tech)
EAPASA 2022/5586
(Pr.Sci.Nat.) Reg. No. 400108/11 (SACNASP)

February 2024

1. DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED PROJECT

Hodsdon Estate is proposing the construction of 12 environmentally controlled poultry houses with the capacity for 50 000 chickens per house on Portion 17 of the farm Dassiesklip 109 HR situated in Dr Pixley Ka Seme Local Municipality within Gert Sibande District Municipality. Approved Engineers and Design drawings have not been finalised for the proposed development. These drawings will stipulate the location and of drainage ditches and any other storm water related infrastructure. This report is therefore limited to making recommendation regarding the management and mitigation measures to be incorporated in stormwater control in order to prevent pollution of surface water.

2. OBJECTIVES OF STORM WATER CONTROL

- a) To reduce the potential impact on surface water run-off.
- b) To ensure that the surface water run-off quality does not impact on the area and receiving environment.
- c) To reduce erosion and contamination of surface water by effective storm water control.

3. STORM WATER CONTROL MANAGEMENT MEASURES

- a) Before any construction takes place the proposed area for the development should be pegged out. All construction activities should take place within these areas in order to reduce the footprint of the proposed activity and therefore the potential impact on surface water run-off.
 - b) Storm water related infrastructure should be inspected on a regular basis in order to ensure that the structures are functional and do not cause soil erosion.
 - c) Effective storm water measures should be implemented to minimise soil erosion, such as:
 - The storm water drainage system must be maintained (free-draining) and not contaminated by other waste sources. Storm water must be kept separate from the sewage or any other effluent system.
 - Storm water must be diverted away from bird holding areas, chemical storage areas and wastewater treatment areas.
 - Erosion prevention structures or vegetation should be placed at concentration points to reduce water velocity within the drainage system.
-

Appendix F-2

Odour management plan

Recommendations for Odour Management

for

HODSDON ESTATE
REF No: 1/3/1/16/1 G-320

Prepared by:

Bucandi Environmental Solutions



Project Manager: Dr. H len Prinsloo (D. Tech)
EAPASA 2022/5586
(Pr.Sci.Nat.) Reg. No. 400108/11 (SACNASP)

February 2024

1. DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED PROJECT

Hodsdon Estate is proposing the construction of 12 environmentally controlled poultry houses with the capacity for 50 000 chickens per house on Portion 17 of the farm Dassiesklip 109 HR situated in Dr Pixley Ka Seme Local Municipality within Gert Sibande District Municipality.

2. OBJECTIVES OF ODOUR CONTROL

- a) To prevent or minimize ambient air pollution as a result of odour emissions.

3. ODOUR CONTROL MANAGEMENT MEASURES

- a) The houses are closed environmentally controlled to reduce the amount of ammonia, dust and unpleasant odour released into the environment.
- b) After the completion of each cycle, all chickens are caught and the manure and litter are then scooped up using a bobcat. The manure is loaded onto a closed truck and taken to agricultural fields, owned by the applicant, where it is used as fertiliser. After removal, all surfaces are disinfected and sanitised by spraying them with an ecologically friendly foam-based detergent (F29) that is left to evaporate. Upon completion of this process, the floors of the houses are washed (using 16 bar pressure washers) with water only that will be allowed to soak into the soil surrounding the facility. This water is not contaminated as the houses are disinfected and sanitised before being sprayed down.
- c) Any mortalities are to be removed on a daily basis and collected by a predator farmer (Gielie Geldenhuys) to be used as food for wild animals and crocodiles..
- d) Manure will be removed after each cycle and used on the applicant's agricultural fields as fertilizer.

4. IMPACT SPECIFIC MITIGATION MEASURES RELATED TO ODOUR CONTROL

Specific impact or risk	Mitigation measures
Pollution of soil, surface water and groundwater due to ineffective management of sewage and general waste management.	Proper ablution facilities must be provided i.e. chemical toilets at appropriate locations on site if necessary or existing facilities must be used. Workers must be made aware of the risk of soil water contamination. Domestic waste must be disposed of in appropriate containers, and removed to the nearest municipal waste-disposal site as part of existing waste management system.
Pollution of soil, surface water and groundwater due to ineffective manure disposal.	After the completion of each cycle, all chickens are caught and the manure and litter are then scooped up using a bobcat. The manure is loaded onto a closed truck and taken to agricultural fields, owned by the applicant, where it is used as fertiliser.
Pollution of soil, surface water and groundwater due to ineffective disposal of mortalities.	The mortalities are removed on a daily basis and collected by a predator farmer (Gielie Geldenhuys) to be used as food for wild animals and crocodiles.

Appendix F-3

Waste management plan

Waste Management Plan

for

HODSDON ESTATE
REF No: 1/3/1/16/1 G-320

Prepared by:

Bucandi Environmental Solutions



Project Manager: Dr. H len Prinsloo (D. Tech)
EAPASA 2022/5586
(Pr.Sci.Nat.) Reg. No. 400108/11 (SACNASP)

February 2024

1. DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED PROJECT

Hodsdon Estate is proposing the construction of 12 environmentally controlled poultry houses with the capacity for 50 000 chickens per house on Portion 17 of the farm Dassiesklip 109 HR situated in Dr Pixley Ka Seme Local Municipality within Gert Sibande District Municipality

2. OBJECTIVES OF WASTE MANAGEMENT

Construction phase

- a) To prevent or minimise the contamination of the natural environment by pollutants from waste generated onsite.
- b) To prevent or minimise the contamination of the natural environment by pollutants from general and hazardous waste generated onsite.

Operational phase

- a) To prevent or minimise the impact of pathogens associated with condemned material.
- b) To prevent or minimise the contamination of the natural environment by wastewater generated throughout the process.
- c) To prevent or minimise the contamination of the natural environment by pollutants from hazardous production waste generated onsite.
- d) To prevent or minimise the contamination of the natural environment by pollutants from waste generated onsite.

3. MEASURES TO BE IMPLEMENTED FOR WASTE CONTROL

Construction phase

- a) Waste will be recycled as far as possible.
- b) Non-recyclable waste will be sorted into different types and disposed of at a suitably licensed waste disposal facility.
- c) Waste considered unsuitable for municipal waste disposal sites will be disposed of at a suitably licensed hazardous waste disposal facility (e.g. WasteTech).

Operational phase

- a) Waste will be recycled as far as possible.
 - b) Non-recyclable waste will be sorted into different types and disposed of at a suitably licensed waste disposal facility.
 - c) Waste considered unsuitable for municipal waste disposal sites will be disposed of at a suitably licensed hazardous waste disposal facility (e.g. WasteTech).
 - d) Manure will be removed after each cycle and used on the applicant's agricultural fields as fertilizer.
 - e) Mortalities will be removed from the poultry houses on a daily basis and stored in a freezer. It will be collected by a predator farmer (Gielie Geldenhuys) to be used as food for wild animals and crocodiles.
-

4. IMPACT SPECIFIC MITIGATION

5. MEASURES RELATED TO WASTE MANAGEMENT

Specific impact or risk	Mitigation measures
Contamination of soils, surface water and groundwater due to leakages from vehicles entering and exiting the site.	Machinery must be properly maintained at all times. Servicing of machinery must take place only in specific demarcated and protected areas. Measures must be taken for the proper disposal of oils, grease, oil filters, rags, etc.
Pollution of soil, surface water and groundwater due to ineffective management of sewage and general waste management.	Proper ablution facilities must be provided i.e. chemical toilets at appropriate locations on site if necessary or existing facilities must be used. Workers must be made aware of the risk of soil water contamination. Domestic waste must be disposed of in appropriate containers, and removed to the nearest municipal waste-disposal site as part of existing waste management system.
Pollution of soil, surface water and groundwater due to ineffective manure disposal.	After the completion of each cycle, all chickens are caught and the manure and litter are then scooped up using a bobcat. The manure is loaded onto a closed truck and taken to agricultural fields, owned by the applicant, where it is used as fertiliser.
Pollution of soil, surface water and groundwater due to ineffective disposal of mortalities.	The mortalities are removed on a daily basis and collected by a predator farmer (Gielie Geldenhuys) to be used as food for wild animals and crocodiles.

Appendix F-4
Bio-security plan

Bio-security recommendations

for

HODSDON ESTATE
REF No: 1/3/1/16/1 G-320

Prepared by:

Bucandi Environmental Solutions



Project Manager: Dr. H len Prinsloo (D. Tech)
EAPASA 2022/5586
(Pr.Sci.Nat.) Reg. No. 400108/11 (SACNASP)

February 2024

1. DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED PROJECT

Hodsdon Estate is proposing the construction of 12 environmentally controlled poultry houses with the capacity for 50 000 chickens per house on Portion 17 of the farm Dassiesklip 109 HR situated in Dr Pixley Ka Seme Local Municipality within Gert Sibande District Municipality.

2. OBJECTIVES OF BIO-SECURITY CONTROL

- a) To prevent diseases not occurring on the farm from entering the farm and those occurring on the farm from spreading to other farms, e.g. diseases such as avian influenza and Newcastle disease, etc.
- b) To reduce the risk of zoonotic diseases such as salmonella becoming established and to limit the occurrence and spread of diseases.
- c) To help protect neighbours, public health and the rural areas.
- d) To improve overall flock health, cut costs of disease treatment and reduce losses, which could improve the profitability of the farm.

3. MEASURES TO BE IMPLEMENTED FOR BIO-SECURITY CONTROL

Biosecurity measure will be implemented according to the guidelines given by the South African Poultry Association. These included, but are not limited to the following:

a. Cleaning and disinfecting

- Visitors, and employees must wash hands before entering and leaving the farm. Acceptable methods include waterless gels, disinfecting hand wipes, or soap and water.
- Clean work clothes should be worn to prevent the spread of disease. Proper clothing requirements are coveralls, hairnet, gloves, and plastic boots. The disposable clothing should be disposed of on the farm before the individual leaves the premises.
- Employees and visitors will be required to shower upon entering the farm and change into the clothing provided as described above.
- Employees and visitors will be required to shower upon exiting the farm and change back into their own clothing. Work clothes will be left on the farm and cleaned daily.
- Workers living on the farm premises will have designated clothing to be worn while on the poultry farm. If a person leaves the premises they should change clothes, including footwear, before leaving.
- Hands will be disinfected before leaving the dressing area and before entering each house.
- Boots will be dipped in the footbaths provide at all the entrances, exits, buildings and poultry houses.
- All equipment used inside the poultry houses will be cleaned and disinfected prior to entering and after exiting the houses. This includes equipment used for clean out and new flock set up.
- Equipment will not be shared between farms, unless thoroughly cleaned and disinfected.

b. Isolation

- Vehicles will be parked in a designated parking area away from poultry houses.
- The perimeter fence will be kept in good repair.
- No open bodies of water will be used as a source for poultry drinking water or for cooling.

c. Vehicle and foot traffic control

- Nobody will be allowed to enter the facility unless biosecurity rules are followed.
 - All visitors will sign a visitor log book and indicate recent bird exposure.
 - Only visitors with a specific purpose for being on the premises will be allowed to enter the facility.
-

- A biosecurity sign stating “no entrance” will be posted on all entrances to poultry housing areas.
- Tires of all the vehicles will be disinfected upon entering and exiting the farm.
- Footbaths with disinfectant will be placed at the entrance of each house and should be used before entering and after leaving the poultry house. Each footbath should be a minimum of 3 cm deep with the proper dilution of disinfectant.
- Hands will be disinfected before entering and after leaving the poultry house.
- Doors to each house will be kept locked to decrease unauthorized entry.

d. Pest control

- Rodents will be controlled with bait stations.
- Doors to poultry houses will always be locked.
- Wild birds will not be allowed to nest on or around the poultry houses and bird deterrents will be used to discourage wild birds from perching near the houses.
- Areas around houses will be kept clean from litter and grass will be short and well-maintained.
- An area of at least 30 m around the houses and building will be landscaped and mowed.
- Storm water ditches will be well maintained and cleared from any obstructions daily to allow for water to leave the area and not puddle.
- Any activity of pets, wild animals, wild birds and other farm animals around the houses will be prevented as far as possible.
- Any feed spills will be cleaned up promptly to minimize a food source for wild animals and birds.

e. Disposal of mortalities and litter

- Mortalities will be removed from the poultry houses on a daily basis and stored in a freezer. It will be collected by a predator farmer (Gielie Geldenhuys) to be used as food for wild animals and crocodiles.
- Litter and manure are removed from the houses at the end of each cycle and immediately removed from the facility and used on agricultural fields as fertilizer.

f. General

- Employees are not allowed to keep birds of any type at their place of residence.
- All employees have to restrict their contact with birds and people who are associated with birds.
- Employees and visitors are not allowed on site for 72 hours after visiting other poultry operations.
- Sick birds will be immediately reported to the site manager.

g. Warning signs of some infectious diseases.

Signs of disease to look for are:

- Weight loss or reduced weight gain in comparison to the rest of the flock.
 - Sneezing, coughing, gasping for air, nasal discharge.
 - Greenish watery diarrhoea.
 - Listlessness, muscular tremors, drooping wings.
 - Twisting of head or neck.
 - Complete paralysis.
 - Swelling around eyes and neck.
 - Lameness and tumours.
 - Sudden deaths or an unusual number of birds dying.
-

Disease breakouts should be reported immediately to the State Veterinarian's Office on 012 319 7488 and instructions should be strictly followed.

Appendix F5
Contractors' agreement

Hodsdon Estates

Farm Poortjie
Volksrust

P O Box 320
Volksrust

0825501680

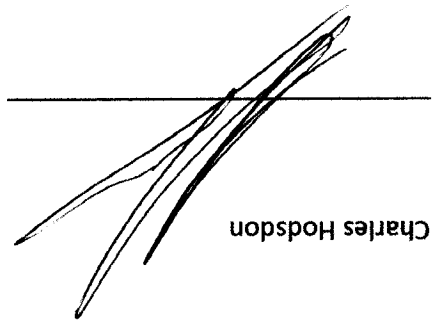
01/01/24

To Whom it May Concern:

I Charles Hodsdon id 8004275151086 hereby confirm that all the chicken manure of the proposed broiler chicken facility on the farm Dassiekilip Volksrust will be removed by myself from the premises and used as fertilizer on my surrounding maize fields

Regards

Charles Hodsdon



Gelie Geldenhuis

Po Box 112

Volkstrust

2470

Farm Weltevrede

0715696370

To Whom it may concern

15/3/2024

I hereby confirm that I will be removing mortalities on the proposed Broiler farm in the Volkstrust area.
Please see attached indemnity for the removal of mortalities agreement between Hodson Estates and me. The mortalities will be utilised for wild animal and crocodile feed.

Regards

G Geldenhuis


INDEMNITY FOR THE REMOVAL OF MORTALITIES

1. PARTIES:

Contract Grower: Hudson Estates (Charles Hudson)
(herein referred to as "the Company")

And

ID Number / Registration number: 66248495
(herein referred to as "The Farmer")

WHEREAS the Company breeds chickens; and

WHEREAS in the breeding process a certain number of chickens
(herein referred to as "mortalities"); and

WHEREAS such mortalities are not fit for human consumption; and

WHEREAS the Farmer farms with pigs and / or crocodiles and / or wild animals; and

WHEREAS the Farmer is desirous of removing mortalities, free of charge, from the
Company's Broiler Farms as food for pigs and / or crocodiles and / or wild animals.

NOW THEREFORE the parties agree as follows:

1. The Farmer acknowledges and confirms that:

1.1 The mortalities are unfit for human consumption and are to be utilised
solely as pig and / or crocodile and / or wild animal feed and for no
other purposes whatsoever.

1.2 The Farmer is aware of the dangers and risks involved if the mortalities
are consumed by humans and / or animals and accept that the use of
the mortalities to feed pigs and / or crocodiles and / or wild animals, is
done at his own risk and hereby consents to the risks involved
therewith.

1.3 He hereby irrevocably abandons any action and / or right to claim
against the Company, its owners, employees, partners, officers and / or
managers for any damage suffered by the Farmer, his dependants,
executors, heirs, successors, employees, employers, associates or
anybody whatsoever resulting from the death or personal injury or
damages both to person and / or property and / or animals, whether
directly or indirectly caused by the use of the mortalities.

1.4 He hereby irrevocably indemnifies the Company, its owners, employees, partners, officers and / or managers against any claim instituted resulting from the above-mentioned incidents whether such claim be instituted by the Farmer's family, dependants, executors, heirs, successors, employees, employers, associates or anybody whatsoever.

1.5 The Company does not warrant that the mortalities removed from the farm are fit for the purpose for which it was removed. All warranties, either expressed or implied, including any warranty that the mortalities are fit for a particular purpose are expressly excluded.

1.6 The Company disclaims all liability for the Farmer in connection with the Company's performance or the Farmer's use of the mortalities supplied and in no event will the Company be liable to the Farmer for direct, special, indirect or consequential damages including but not limited to loss of any of its animals and / or loss of profits.

1.7 Any liability of the Company for breach of contract including without limitation will not exceed in damages, costs, fees and other expenses capable of being awarded to the Farmer, will not exceed in aggregate the total price or due to be paid by the Farmer for the mortalities supplied.

2. General

2.1 This contract represents the entire agreement between the Company and the Farmer and shall govern all future contractual relationships between them.

2.2 No amendment and / or variation and / or deletion and / or cancellation of these terms and conditions, whether consensual or unilateral or bilateral, purporting to obligate the Company to sign a written agreement to amend, alter, vary, delete, add or cancel these terms and conditions shall be of any force and effect unless reduced to writing and signed by a Director of the Company.

2.3 No warranties, representations or guarantees have been made by the Company or on its behalf, which may have induced the Farmer to sign this document.

2.4 No relaxation or indulgence which the Company may give at any time in regard to the carrying out of the Farmer's obligations in terms of any contract shall prejudice or be deemed to be a waiver of any of the Company's rights in terms of any contract.

CH
S

- 2.5 Any written notice to the Company shall be addressed to the Company at its address set out on page 1 hereof.
- 2.6 Each of the terms herein, shall be separate and divisible term and if any such term becomes unenforceable for any reason whatsoever, then that term shall not affect the validity of the other terms.
- 2.7 All mortalities must be collected daily before 11:00am
- 2.8 Farm staff will place mortalities in the mortality bay.
- 2.9 Mortalities will be put into your container by your staff
- 2.10 Containers must be washed and disinfected daily with prescribed chemicals
- 2.11 Mortalities in transit must be covered

Signed at Volksrust on this 15 day of March 2024

Contract Grower:

As witness:

1. J. A. A.

2. D. A.

Farmer:

As witness:

1. J. A. A.

2. C. A.

Contract Grower

Farmer

Appendix G
Curriculum Vitae of EAP

Curriculum Vitae

Hélen Prinsloo

Phone: 076 682 4369
23 Burger Street
Viljoenskroon
9520
email: helen@bucandi.co.za

Work experience:

Job title: Owner, Ecologist and GIS Technician
Company: Bucandi Environmental Solutions
Period: October 2010 - current
Location: Viljoenskroon, Free State, South Africa
Job description: Managing my own environmental consulting business
Compiling Environmental Authorisations, including Basic Assessment Reports
Conducting specialist ecological studies
Compile maps and conduct spatial analyses using ArcGIS 9.3 to produce deliverables for specialist studies and environmental applications.

Job title: Environmental Scientist
Company: Clean Stream Environmental Consultants
Period: June 2009 – September 2010
Location: Pretoria, Gauteng, South Africa
Job description: Compiling the following environmental reports and applications:
Basic Assessment Reports
Scoping Reports
Environmental Impact Assessment
Environmental Management Program / Plan
Integrated Water Use Licence Application
Integrated Water and Waste Management Plan
Conducting specialist ecological studies
Leading and participating in public consultation associated with the abovementioned procedures.
Compile maps and conduct spatial analyses using ArcGIS 9.2 to produce deliverables for specialist studies and environmental reports.
Compiling budgets and proposals for environmental reports and applications.

Job title: Coordinator – South African Crane Working Group (SACWG)
Company: Endangered Wildlife Trust
Period: January 2008 - February 2009
Location: Howick, KwaZulu Natal, South Africa
Job description: Review and update research strategy continuously.
Formulate, prioritise and approve research projects as well as ensure acceptable quality of all research projects.
Manage delivery of research work in appropriate manner with time frames.
Accept overall fundraising responsibility and accountability for SACWG's sustainability.
Write fundraising proposals and perform high-level, strategic donor funding activities.

Review conservation strategy annually.
Compile monthly and annual reports and work plans.
Develop and coordinate species action plans.
Lobby nationally and internationally to implement crane habitat objectives.
Ensure the employment of effective, efficient and suitably qualified staff.
Manage a group of 8 administrative and field staff.

Job title: Ecologist
Company: Biological Research Associates
Period: August 2006 – December 2007
Location: Tampa, Florida, USA
Job description: Writing budgets and proposals for environmental monitoring projects.
Conducting wildlife surveys to determining the presence and abundance of listed species.
Permit preparation and application for relocation of wildlife.
Conducting relocation of wildlife such as gopher tortoises, burrowing owls and various other species.
Coordinating research projects focused on the conservation of various wildlife species including gopher tortoises, burrowing owls, sandhill cranes, wading birds, snakes, small mammals, etc.
Writing management plans for wildlife preservation areas.
Compiling reclamation plans for phosphate mines.
Completing Environmental Impact Assessments and providing solutions based on a professional assessment.
Using ArcGIS and related software to report on all actions.
Writing scientific reports.
Delineating wetlands based on soil morphology, vegetation and topography.
Permit preparation and application for wetland impacts, preservation, reclamation and creation.

Job title: Bio Scientist II
Company: Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
Period: March 2005 – July 2006
Location: Spring Hill, Florida, USA
Job description: Design and implement wildlife monitoring projects such as deer spotlight counts, turkey surveys, bob-white quail surveys, gopher tortoise surveys, shorebird counts etc.
Design and implement habitat restoration projects on 34 000 acre wildlife management area making use of mechanical action, chemical applications and prescribed fire.
Conducting photopoints and wildlife surveys to monitor the effect of habitat management practices on wildlife and their environment.
Conducting prescribed burns.
Restoration of scrub habitat and surveying for scrub jays.
Apply herbicides to exotic plants.
Restoration of hydrology on a 34 000 acre wildlife management area.
Oversee construction projects for erosion control.
Using ArcGIS and related software to report on management actions.
Writing scientific reports.
Conduct activities related to conservation of Red Cockaded Woodpeckers such as doing nest inserts, banding, roost checks and relocations.

Job title: Safari coordinator and guide
Company: High Adventure / SA Adventure
Period: March 2004 – March 2005
Location: Atlanta, Georgia, USA
Job description: Selling photo and hunting safaris to Southern Africa, Argentina and the USA.
Designing marketing material and delivering presentations to prospective clients.
Attending conventions to liaise with outfitters and clients in order to compile FIT itineraries.
Booking safaris based on FIT itineraries.
Using airline software (Sabre) to plan and book airfare related to itineraries.
Negotiate contracts with outfitters and airlines.
Acting as guide on quail and deer hunts in Georgia and Texas.

Job title: Research Assistant
Company: Tshwane University of Technology
Period: February 2002 – October 2003
Location: Pretoria, South Africa
Job description: Full-time research towards my master's degree.
Studying the ecology of Helmeted Guineafowl on agricultural farmland in order to provide farmers with management plans and to provide hunters with ratios for sustainable utilisation.
Constant sight tracking of several flocks of Helmeted Guineafowl.
Capturing, tagging and radio-tracking individual guineafowl.
Habitat and vegetation analyses.
Dissecting approximately 600 guineafowl shot by wingshooters during the hunting season.
Shooting and dissecting 5 guineafowl monthly.
Collecting morphological, biological and dietary data on dissected specimens.
Collecting endo-, ecto- and blood parasites from dissected specimens.
Collecting and analyzing data on population dynamics and bag size history in order to investigate the sustainability of wingshooting in the area.
Supervising up to 15 students at a time that assisted with field research, sight tracking and dissections.
Conducting interviews with farmers and completing questionnaires in order to construct a land-use map covering approximately 200 000 hectares.

Job title: Research Assistant
Company: North West University
Period: January 2000 – January 2002
Location: Potchefstroom, South Africa
Job description: Part-time, mostly weekends, field research towards my B.Sc. (Honors) degree.
Studying ecology of small mammals as part of a management plan for Mongêna Game Ranch, South Africa.
Capturing small mammals using Sherman live traps.
Taking morphological measurements of small mammals and releasing them afterwards.
Toe-clipping specimens and identifying recaptured specimens to estimate population sizes.
Vegetation surveys to establish different habitat types.
Relating small mammal surveys to habitat types in order to describe the

ecology of the small mammal species.

Using the occurrence of small mammals as indicators for assessing the status of the habitat in order to provide advice on the management plan for Mongêna Game Ranch.

Job title: Senior Credit Facilitator
Company: Avroy Shlain Cosmetics
Period: July 1996 – December 2000
Location: Midrand, South Africa
Job description: Responsible for collecting approximately R2 000 000 per month from existing clients.
Supervising two credit facilitators.
Liaising extensively with clients over the phone and in person in order to facilitate their accounts.
Regular office duties.

Publications: Sex-related variation in morphology of helmeted guineafowl (*Numida meleagris*) from the Riemland of the north-eastern Free State, South Africa. *South African Journal of Wildlife Research* 35(1): 95 – 96 (April 2005).
Authors: H.C. Prinsloo, V. Harley, B.K. Reilly & T.M. Crowe.

The diet of Helmeted Guineafowl (*Numida meleagris*) in the Riemland of the northeastern Free State, South Africa. *South African Journal of Wildlife Research*.

Authors: H len C. Prinsloo, Victor Harley, Prof. B.K. Reilly, Prof. T.M. Crowe.

Identifying potential protected areas in the Grassland Biome of South Africa. *South African Journal of Science* 117(3/4)(March 2021).

Authors: H len C. Prinsloo, Prof. B.K. Reilly, Prof. W. Myburgh.
<https://doi.org/10.17159/sajs.2021/7507>

Additional private and consulting activities:

June 2002 – August 2003: Providing advice and help with organising of large gamebird hunts (36 people per hunting party) for Mr. Peter Wales in the northeastern Free State, South Africa.
Consulting Mr. Peter Wales and farmers in the northeastern Free State on conservation methods and wingshooting ratios for sustainable utilisation in the area.

February 2003 – May 2003: Consulting Middelburg Collieries on methods of improving the quality of habitat and increasing the numbers of gamebirds on rehabilitated land.

September 2003: Consulting farmers in the Arlington region of the eastern Free State on methods for improving gamebird habitat and ratios for sustainable utilisation.

September 2003: Consulting farmers in the Viljoenskroon region of the northern Free State on methods for improving gamebird habitat and ratios for sustainable utilisation.

October 2002: Speaker at conference day of The South African Journal of Wildlife Research. Topic: The ecology of small mammals on Mong na Game Ranch, Gauteng, South Africa.

June 2003: Abstract of master's dissertation used in NRF's (National Research

Foundation) annual brochure representing the niche area: Decision Support to the Wildlife Industry.

Volunteer experience:

2000 – 2001: Collecting data on the status of wetlands in Mpumalanga, South Africa, for use in the Rennies Wetland Project.
2002: Tracking elephants in Kruger National Park to collect data on feeding behaviour and cortisol levels in faeces.

Corporate experience:

Personal assistant to credit manager

Credit facilitator

Senior credit facilitator

While studying towards my B.Sc. and Honors degrees, I worked fulltime at Avroy Shlain Cosmetics, a corporate company. I was promoted twice during the period 1997 – 2002 and my duties included assisting the credit manager in regular office activities, full credit control (debt collecting) and supervising other credit facilitators.

Education:

Institution: Tshwane University of Technology

Location: Pretoria, South Africa

Period: 2017-2021

Qualification: D.Tech (Nature Conservation)

Institution: Tshwane University of Technology

Location: Pretoria, South Africa

Period: 2002-2003

Qualification: M.Tech (Nature Conservation) - Cum Laude

Institution: Northwest University

Location: Potchefstroom, South Africa

Period: 2000-2001

Qualification: B.Sc. (Hons.) Zoology - Cum Laude

Institution: UNISA

Location: Pretoria, South Africa

Period: 1996-1999

Qualification: B.Sc (Biology)

Institution: Salomon Senekal Hoërskool

Location: Viljoenskroon, South Africa

Qualification: Senior Certificate

Subjects: Afrikaans (1st language) - A

English - A

Mathematics - A

Accountancy - A

Biology - A

Science - B

Computer skills: MS Office - Expert
ArcView / ArcMap / ArcCatalog / GIS / GPS – Expert
BPCS - Expert
Sabre - Expert
Statistica - Intermediate

Additional training and licences: ArcGIS 9.0
Basic Fire Management
Interagency Prescribed Fire School
Licensed Restricted Herbicide Applicator
Licensed Archeological Resource Monitor
Safe-Capture and Immobilisation of Animals
Natural Plant Communities of Florida
Teambuilding
Communication skills
Junior management

References:

Dr. Ray Jansen: Senior Lecturer - Tshwane University of Technology
email: jansenr@tut.ac.za
Phone: 012 318 6115

Dr. Henry Davies: Chairman - KZN Crane Foundation
email: henry@kzncrane.co.za
Phone: 033 343 3630

Mr. Tim Snow: Project Manager - Endangered Wildlife Trust
email: snowman@ewt.org.za
Phone: 082 802 6223

Prof. Brian Reilly: Professor - Tshwane University of Technology
email: reillyb@techpta.ac.za
Phone: 012 318 5215

Prof. Tim Crowe: Professor - University of Cape Town
email: Timothy.Crowe@uct.ac.za
Phone: 021 650 3292

Mr. Lee Walton: Senior Ecologist - Biological Research Associates
email: lwalton@entrix.com

Appendix H-1
Screening Tool Report

**SCREENING REPORT FOR AN ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORIZATION AS
REQUIRED BY THE 2014 EIA REGULATIONS – PROPOSED SITE
ENVIRONMENTAL SENSITIVITY**

EIA Reference number: Hodson Estate

Project name: Dassiesklip construction of 12 environmentally controlled poultry houses.

Project title: Dassiesklip construction of 12 environmentally controlled poultry houses on Portion 17 of the farm Dassiesklip 109 HS situated in Dr Pixley Ka Seme Local Municipality within Gert Sibande District Municipality.

Date screening report generated: 18/02/2024 17:37:23

Applicant: Charles Hodsdon

Compiler: Bucandi Environmental Solutions

Compiler signature:



Application Category: Agriculture_Forestry_Fisheries|Animal Production

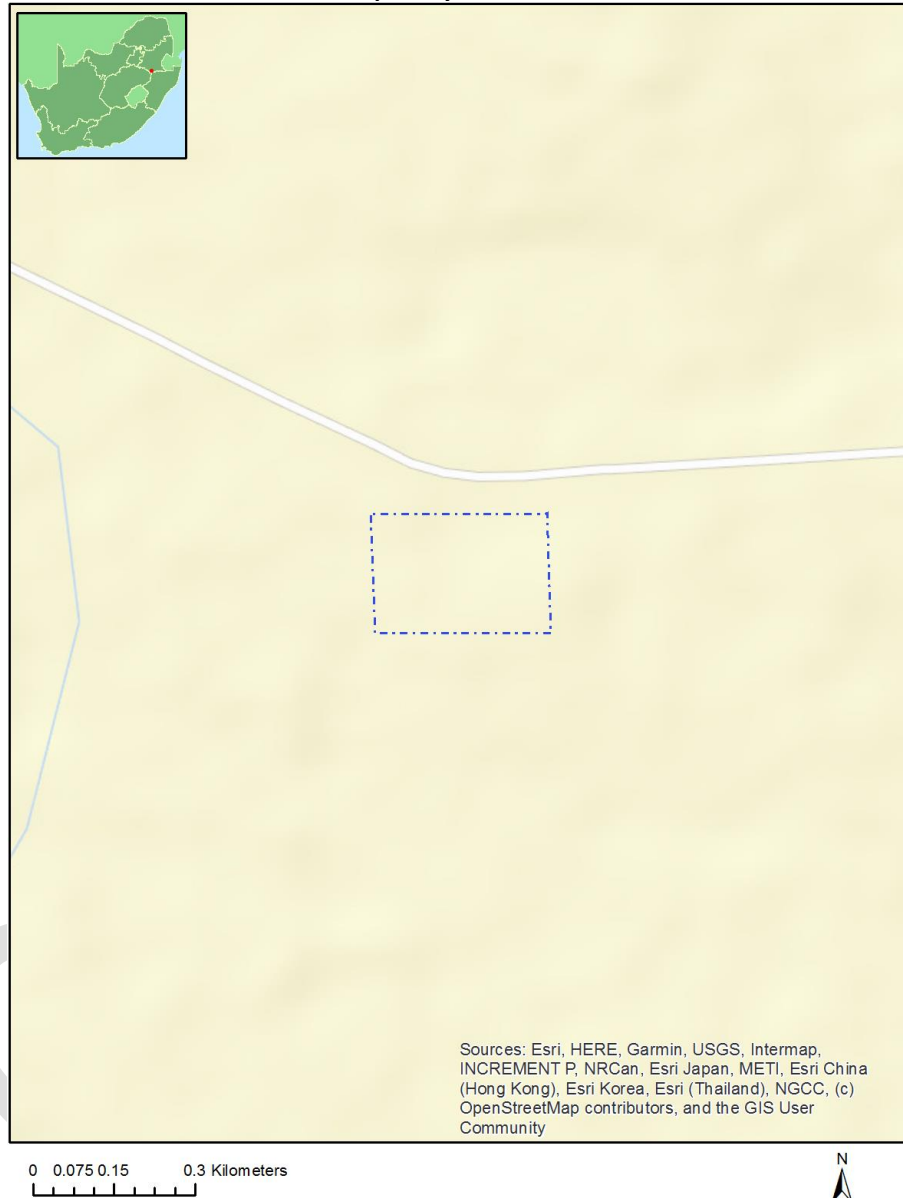
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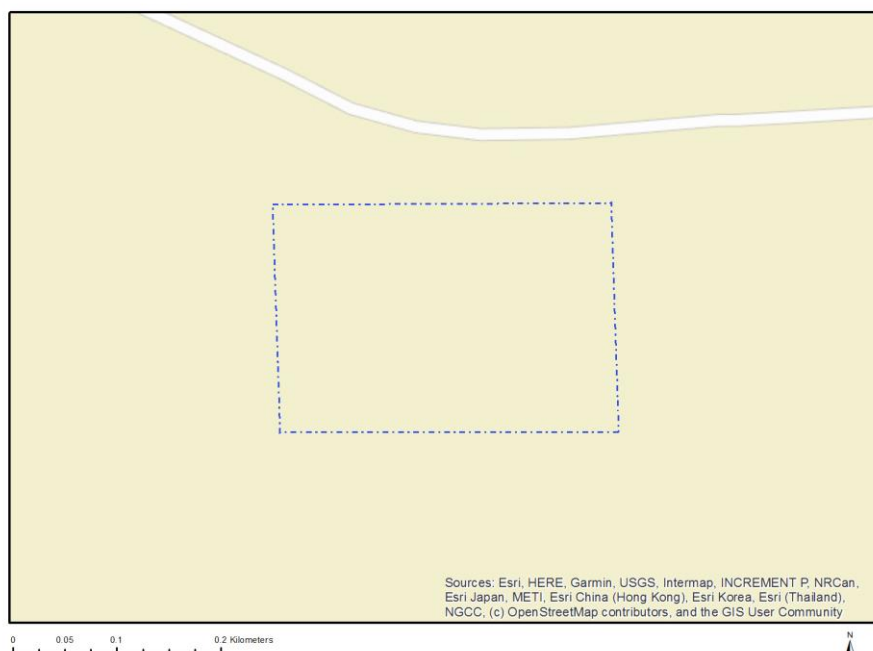
Proposed Project Location

Orientation map 1: General location

General Orientation: Dassiesklip construction of 12 environmentally controlled poultry houses.



Map of proposed site and relevant area(s)



Cadastral details of the proposed site

Property details:

No	Farm Name	Farm/ Erf No	Portion	Latitude	Longitude	Property Type
1	DASSIESKLIP	109	0	27°16'21.5S	29°45'39.59E	Farm
2	DASSIESKLIP	109	17	27°15'46.23S	29°47'48.2E	Farm Portion

Development footprint¹ vertices:

No development footprint(s) specified.

Wind and Solar developments with an approved Environmental Authorisation or applications under consideration within 30 km of the proposed area

No	EIA Reference No	Classification	Status of application	Distance from proposed area (km)
1	14//12/16/3/3/2/752	Solar PV	Approved	17.3
2	14/12/16/3/3/2/752	Solar PV	Approved	17.3

¹ "development footprint", means the area within the site on which the development will take place and includes all ancillary developments for example roads, power lines, boundary walls, paving etc. which require vegetation clearance or which will be disturbed and for which the application has been submitted.

Environmental Management Frameworks relevant to the application

No intersections with EMF areas found.

Environmental screening results and assessment outcomes

The following sections contain a summary of any development incentives, restrictions, exclusions or prohibitions that apply to the proposed development site as well as the most environmental sensitive features on the site based on the site sensitivity screening results for the application classification that was selected. The application classification selected for this report is:

Agriculture_Forestry_Fisheries|Animal Production.

Relevant development incentives, restrictions, exclusions or prohibitions

The following development incentives, restrictions, exclusions or prohibitions and their implications that apply to this site are indicated below.

Incentive, restriction or prohibition	Implication
Air Quality-Highveld Priority Area	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/DevelopmentZones/HIGHVELD_PRIORITY_AREA_AQMP.pdf
Strategic Gas Pipeline Corridors-Phase 3: Richards Bay to Gauteng	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/DevelopmentZones/Combined_GAS.pdf

Proposed Development Area Environmental Sensitivity

The following summary of the development site environmental sensitivities is identified. Only the highest environmental sensitivity is indicated. The footprint environmental sensitivities for the proposed development footprint as identified, are indicative only and must be verified on site by a suitably qualified person before the specialist assessments identified below can be confirmed.

Theme	Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
Agriculture Theme		X		
Animal Species Theme			X	
Aquatic Biodiversity Theme				X
Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Theme	X			
Civil Aviation Theme			X	
Defence Theme				X
Paleontology Theme		X		
Plant Species Theme				X
Terrestrial Biodiversity Theme				X

Specialist assessments identified

Based on the selected classification, and the known impacts associated with the proposed development, the following list of specialist assessments have been identified for inclusion in the assessment report. It is the responsibility of the EAP to confirm this list and to motivate in the

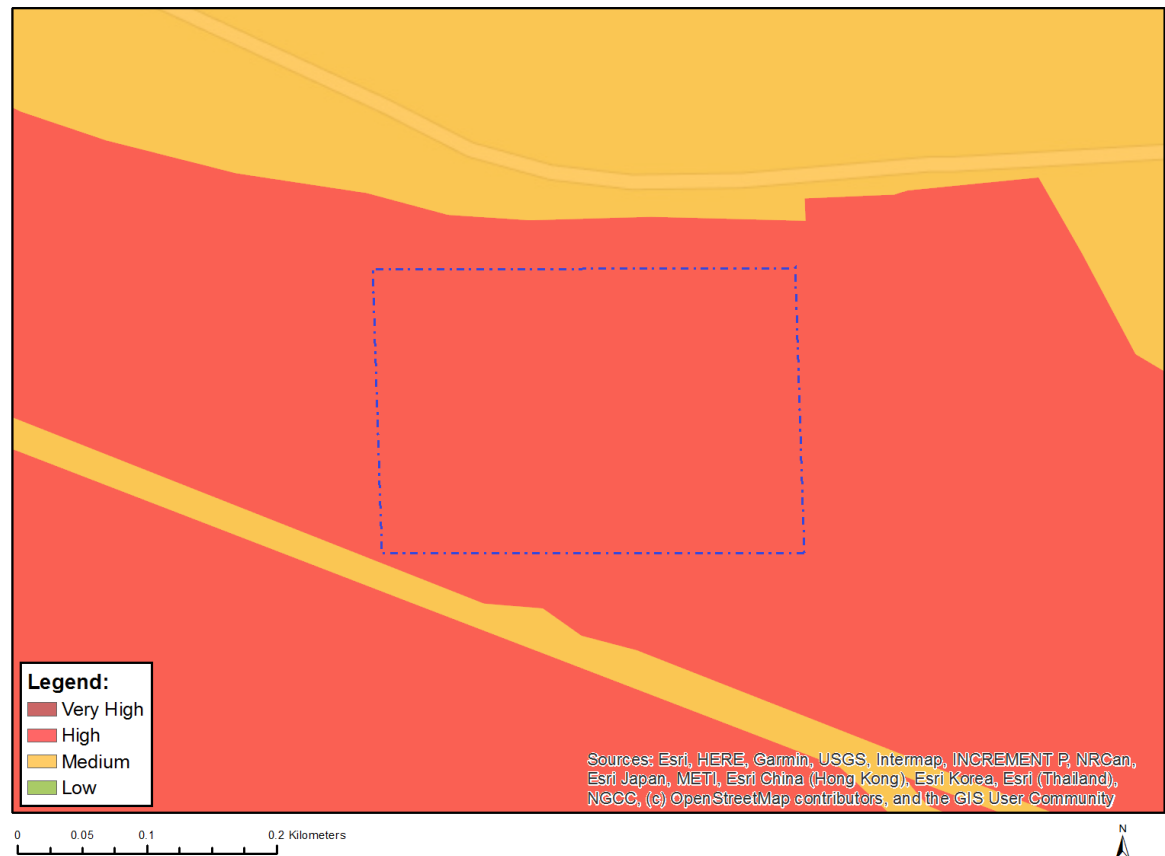
assessment report, the reason for not including any of the identified specialist study including the provision of photographic evidence of the site situation.

No	Specialist assessment	Assessment Protocol
1	Landscape/Visual Impact Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted General Requirement Assessment Protocols.pdf
2	Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted General Requirement Assessment Protocols.pdf
3	Palaeontology Impact Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted General Requirement Assessment Protocols.pdf
4	Terrestrial Biodiversity Impact Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted Terrestrial Biodiversity Assessment Protocols.pdf
5	Aquatic Biodiversity Impact Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted Aquatic Biodiversity Assessment Protocols.pdf
6	Hydrology Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted General Requirement Assessment Protocols.pdf
7	Traffic Impact Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted General Requirement Assessment Protocols.pdf
8	Socio-Economic Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted General Requirement Assessment Protocols.pdf
9	Ambient Air Quality Impact Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted General Requirement Assessment Protocols.pdf
10	Plant Species Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted Plant Species Assessment Protocols.pdf
11	Animal Species Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted Animal Species Assessment Protocols.pdf

Results of the environmental sensitivity of the proposed area.

The following section represents the results of the screening for environmental sensitivity of the proposed site for relevant environmental themes associated with the project classification. It is the duty of the EAP to ensure that the environmental themes provided by the screening tool are comprehensive and complete for the project. Refer to the disclaimer.

MAP OF RELATIVE AGRICULTURE THEME SENSITIVITY

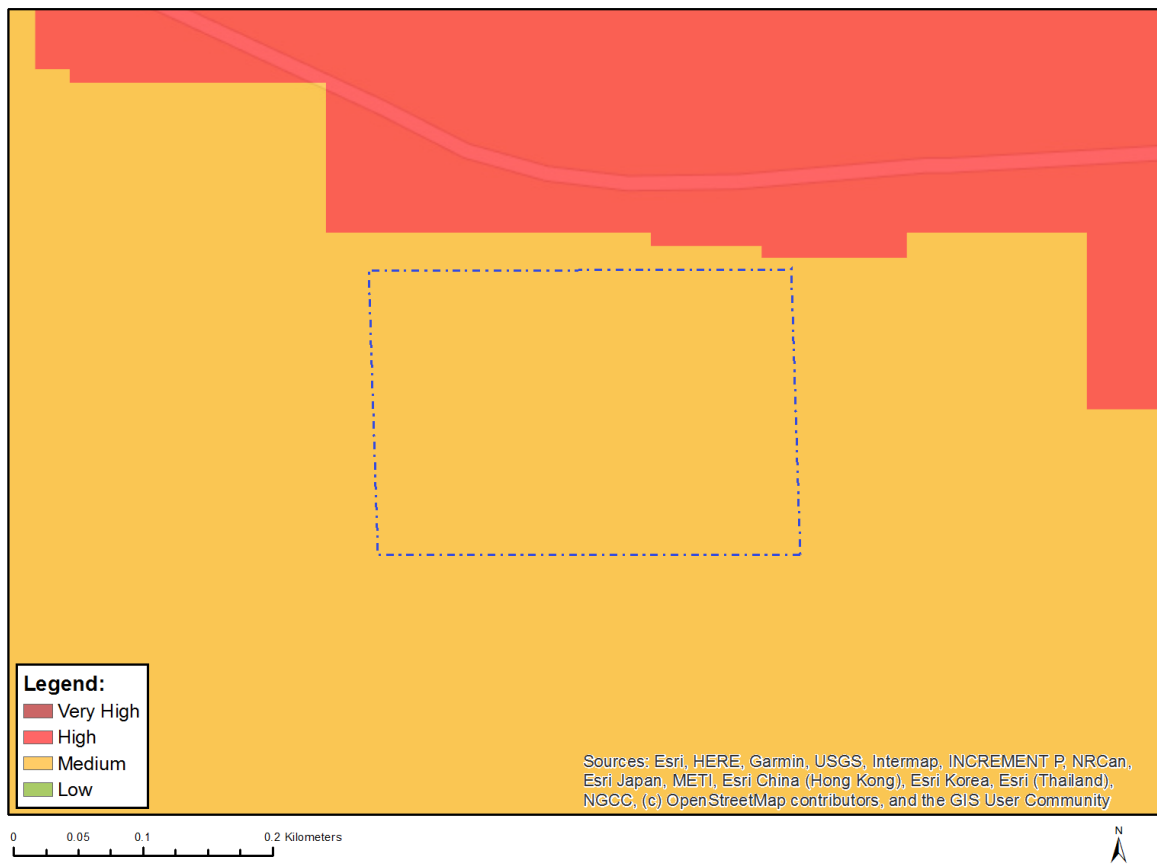


Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
	X		

Sensitivity Features:

Sensitivity	Feature(s)
High	Annual Crop Cultivation / Planted Pastures Rotation;Land capability;06. Low-Moderate/07. Low-Moderate/08. Moderate

MAP OF RELATIVE ANIMAL SPECIES THEME SENSITIVITY



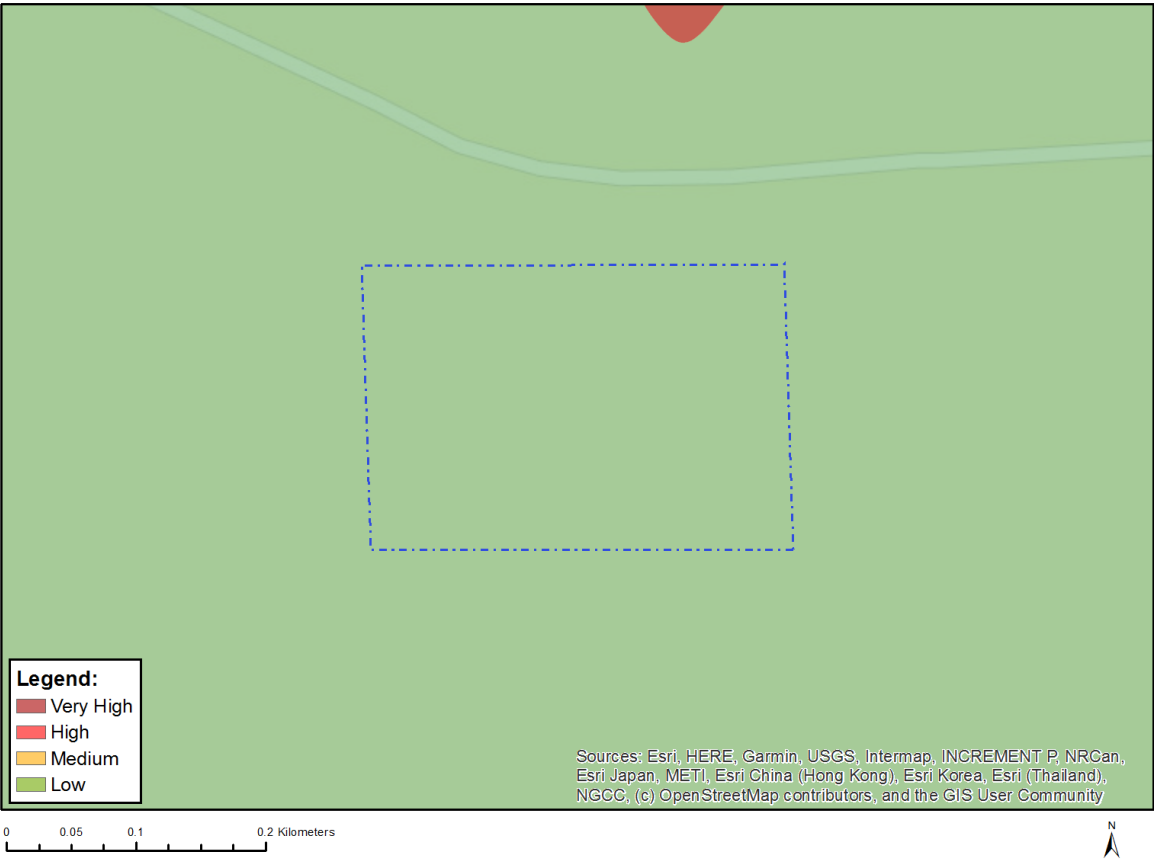
Where only a sensitive plant unique number or sensitive animal unique number is provided in the screening report and an assessment is required, the environmental assessment practitioner (EAP) or specialist is required to email SANBI at eiadatarequests@sanbi.org.za listing all sensitive species with their unique identifiers for which information is required. The name has been withheld as the species may be prone to illegal harvesting and must be protected. SANBI will release the actual species name after the details of the EAP or specialist have been documented.

Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
		X	

Sensitivity Features:

Sensitivity	Feature(s)
Medium	Aves-Eupodotis senegalensis
Medium	Mammalia-Chrysospalax villosus
Medium	Mammalia-Hydricotis maculicollis
Medium	Mammalia-Ourebia ourebi ourebi
Medium	Sensitive species 15

MAP OF RELATIVE AQUATIC BIODIVERSITY THEME SENSITIVITY



Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
			X

Sensitivity Features:

Sensitivity	Feature(s)
Low	Low sensitivity

MAP OF RELATIVE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE THEME SENSITIVITY

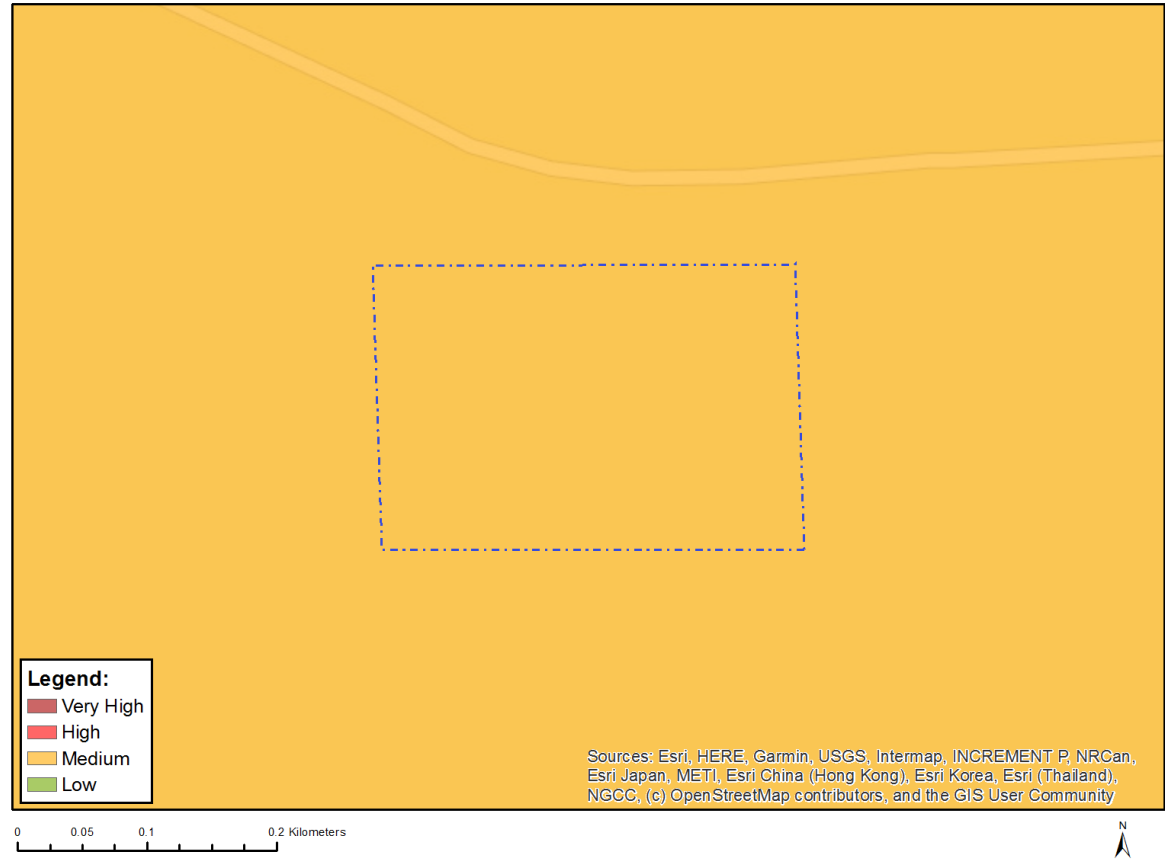


Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
X			

Sensitivity Features:

Sensitivity	Feature(s)
Very High	Within 2km of a Grade II Heritage site

MAP OF RELATIVE CIVIL AVIATION THEME SENSITIVITY

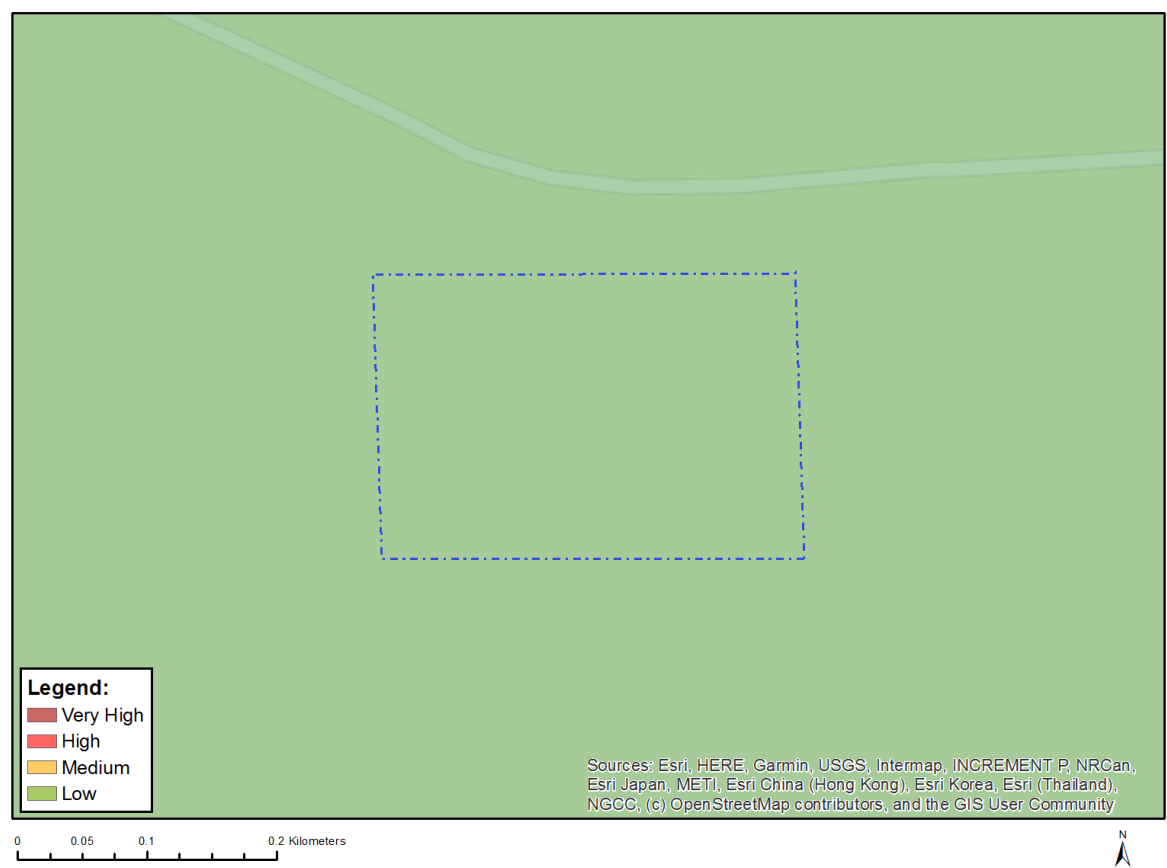


Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
		X	

Sensitivity Features:

Sensitivity	Feature(s)
Medium	Between 8 and 15 km of other civil aviation aerodrome

MAP OF RELATIVE DEFENCE THEME SENSITIVITY

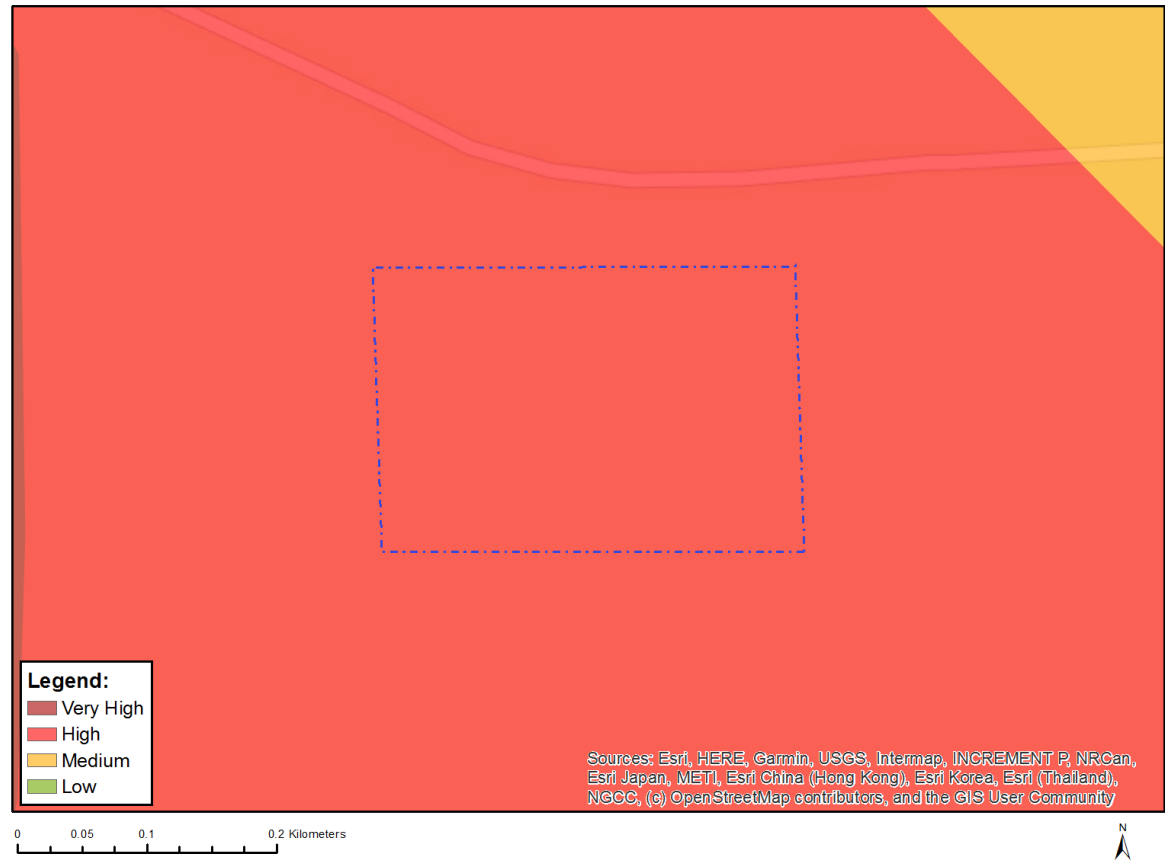


Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
			X

Sensitivity Features:

Sensitivity	Feature(s)
Low	Low Sensitivity

MAP OF RELATIVE PALEONTOLOGY THEME SENSITIVITY

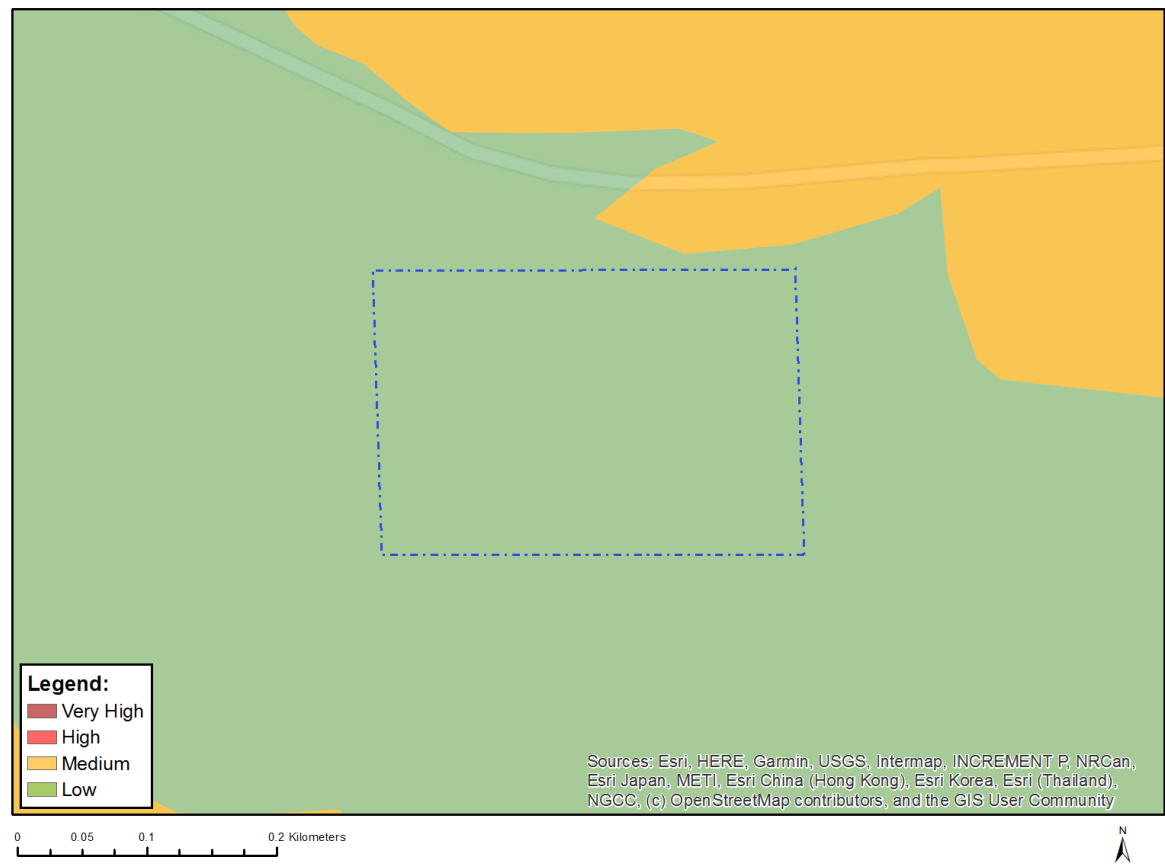


Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
	X		

Sensitivity Features:

Sensitivity	Feature(s)
High	Features with a High paleontological sensitivity
Medium	Features with a Medium paleontological sensitivity

MAP OF RELATIVE PLANT SPECIES THEME SENSITIVITY



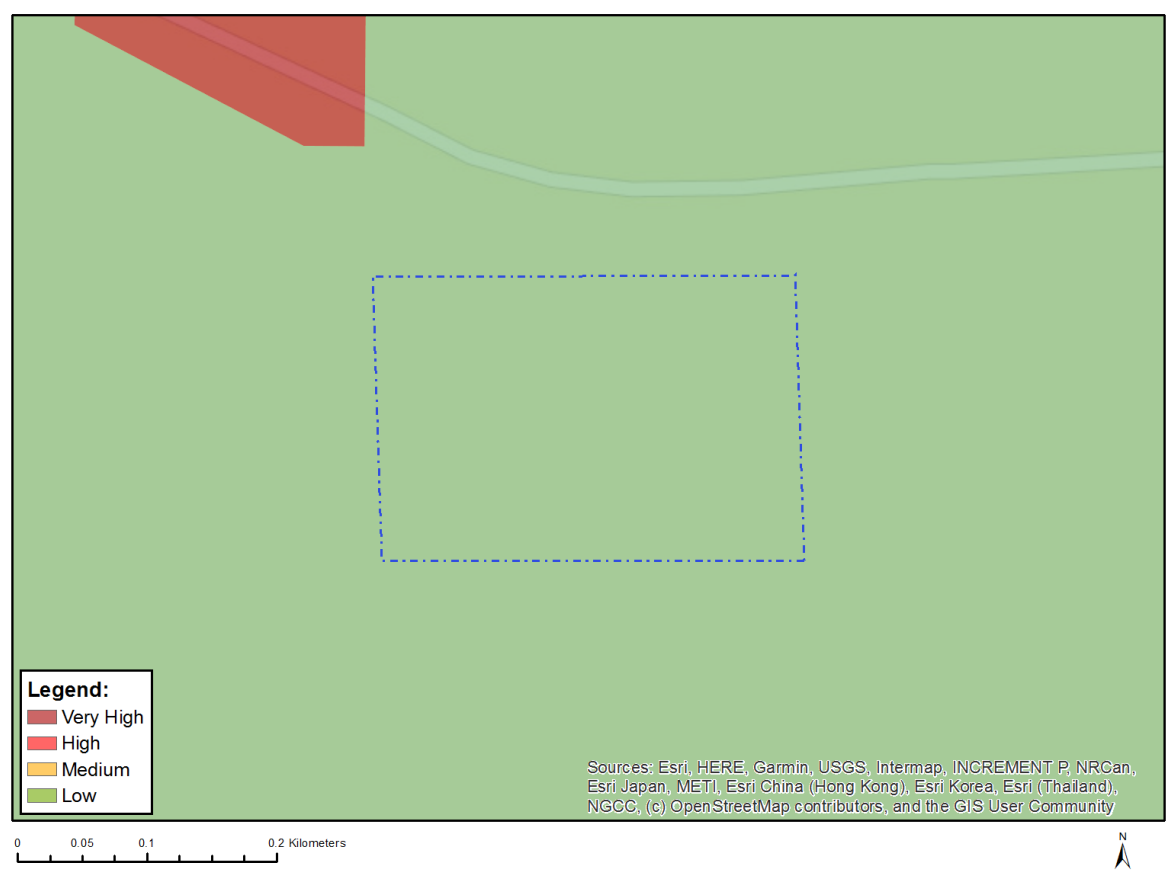
Where only a sensitive plant unique number or sensitive animal unique number is provided in the screening report and an assessment is required, the environmental assessment practitioner (EAP) or specialist is required to email SANBI at eiadatarequests@sanbi.org.za listing all sensitive species with their unique identifiers for which information is required. The name has been withheld as the species may be prone to illegal harvesting and must be protected. SANBI will release the actual species name after the details of the EAP or specialist have been documented.

Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
			X

Sensitivity Features:

Sensitivity	Feature(s)
Low	Low Sensitivity

MAP OF RELATIVE TERRESTRIAL BIODIVERSITY THEME SENSITIVITY



Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
			X

Sensitivity Features:

Sensitivity	Feature(s)
Low	Low Sensitivity