



**This document serves to provide you with information regarding the proposed poultry abattoir project approximately 45km north of Bronkhorstspuit, Mpumalanga and invites you to get involved in the environmental impact assessment process.**

### Background to the Project

Mpumalanga Department of Agriculture, Rural Development and Land Administration (DARDLA) plans to develop a poultry abattoir on portion 1 of the farm Gemsbokfontein 231 JR approximately 45km north of Bronkhorstspuit, and 2km south of Gemsbokfontein, Thembisile Local Municipality, Mpumalanga.

The Comprehensive Rural Development Programme is about enabling rural people to take control of their destiny, thereby dealing effectively with rural poverty through the optimal use and management of natural resources. This poultry abattoir will be implemented through a partnership between government, private Sector and the community. This abattoir project is aimed at improving the quality of life for

rural households, exploiting the varied economic potential of each area, revitalisation of rural towns and it also makes provision for skills development.

### Project Description

The proposed construction of the poultry abattoir is planned with an initial slaughtering capacity of 80 000 broilers per week, and once it is fully operational, the capacity will be increased to 160 000 broilers per week.

This proposed project will involve the construction of the following:

- New regional offices within a close proximity of the existing offices;
- Two new broiler houses next to the existing broiler houses;
- Irrigation;

- Repair of the existing dams.

An effluent treatment plant is also proposed in order to dispose of all the waste materials. This treatment plant will consist of the following materials:

- Screening
- Fat removal
- Anaerobic treatment
- Aerobic treatment
- Maturation ponds
- Sludge drying beds
- Disinfection of final effluent

### Legal Requirement

The proposed project triggers activities listed in the National Environmental Management Act (No.107 of 1998) (as amended) and the National Environmental Management Waste Act, 2008 and therefore this project requires authorisation from the Mpumalanga Department of Economic Development, Environment & Tourism (MDEDET) as well as the National Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA).

**The following activities (and a description of each) as listed in GN R544 are triggered by the proposed project:**

#### Activity 3

The construction of facilities or infrastructure for the slaughter of animals with a product throughput of:

- (i) poultry exceeding 50 poultry per day; or

- (ii) game and red meat exceeding 6 units per day

#### Activity 5

The construction of facilities or infrastructure for the concentration of:

- (i) more than 1 000 poultry per facility situated within an urban area, excluding chicks younger than 20 days
- (ii) more than 5 000 poultry per facility situated outside an urban area, excluding chicks younger than 20 days,

#### Activity 8

The construction of a hatchery or agri-industrial infrastructure outside industrial complexes where the development footprint covers an area of 2000 square metres or more. The area that will be transformed will be approximately 1ha in extent.

**The following activities (and a description of each) as listed in GN R546 are also triggered by the proposed project:**

#### Activity 12

The clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of vegetation which falls within a critical biodiversity area, where 75% or more of the vegetative cover constitutes indigenous vegetation.

Accordingly, the proposed project will require the submission of a Basic Assessment Report (BAR) as outlined in sections 21 to 25 of Regulations 543.

**The following activities (and a description of each) as listed in GN R718 (Waste Activities) are triggered by the proposed project:**

**Category B**

(5) The treatment of hazardous waste using any form of treatment regardless of the size or capacity of such a facility to treat such waste.

(6) The treatment of hazardous waste in lagoons.

(7) The treatment of effluent, wastewater or sewage with an annual throughput capacity of 15 000 cubic metres or more.

(8) The incineration of waste regardless of the capacity of such a facility.

**Public Participation**

You have been identified as a potential Interested and/or Affected Party (I&AP) for this project, either because you represent an affected organisation or because of your proximity/location to the proposed project. Public participation is a key component of this environmental process and will take place at various stages throughout the project. This process will include the following steps:

- Advertising the project in the local newspaper (**Witbank News 25 April 2013**);
- Distributing this background information document to all identified stakeholders;
- Making the draft Scoping Report available for review and informing

the public regarding the availability of the draft Scoping Report for a 40 day comment period for the EIA process and 60 days for the waste process during which the public has the opportunity to review the draft document and raise issues or concerns;

- Finalising the Final Scoping Report, taking cognisance of comments received from I&APs, key stakeholders and relevant organs of state;
- Making the Final Scoping Report available for review for 21 day comment period;
- Inviting all I&APs to comment on the report via letters and/or e-mail; and
- Submitting the Final Scoping Report to the MDEDET and DEA for review and acceptance of the report;
- Making the draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) available for review and informing the public regarding the availability of the draft EIR for a 40 day comment period for the EIA process and 60 days for the waste process during which the public has the opportunity to review the draft document and raise issues or concerns;
- Finalising the Final EIR, taking cognisance of comments received from I&APs, key stakeholders and relevant organs of state;

- Making the Final EIR available for review for 21 day comment period;
- Inviting all I&APs to comment on the report via letters and/or e-mail; and
- Submitting the Final EIR to the MDEDET and DEA for approval.

All comments received will be compiled in a Comments and Responses Report that will also be submitted to the Competent Authorities.

### Way Forward

If you would like to register as an I&AP for this environmental process or submit any issues and/or concerns on the Draft BAR, please submit your comments by fax, post or email to Aurecon, by no later than **24 May 2013**. If you have any queries, comments or require any other assistance, please contact Anne-Mari White of Aurecon at the details provided below.

#### **Public Participation Office: Aurecon**

Anne-Mari White

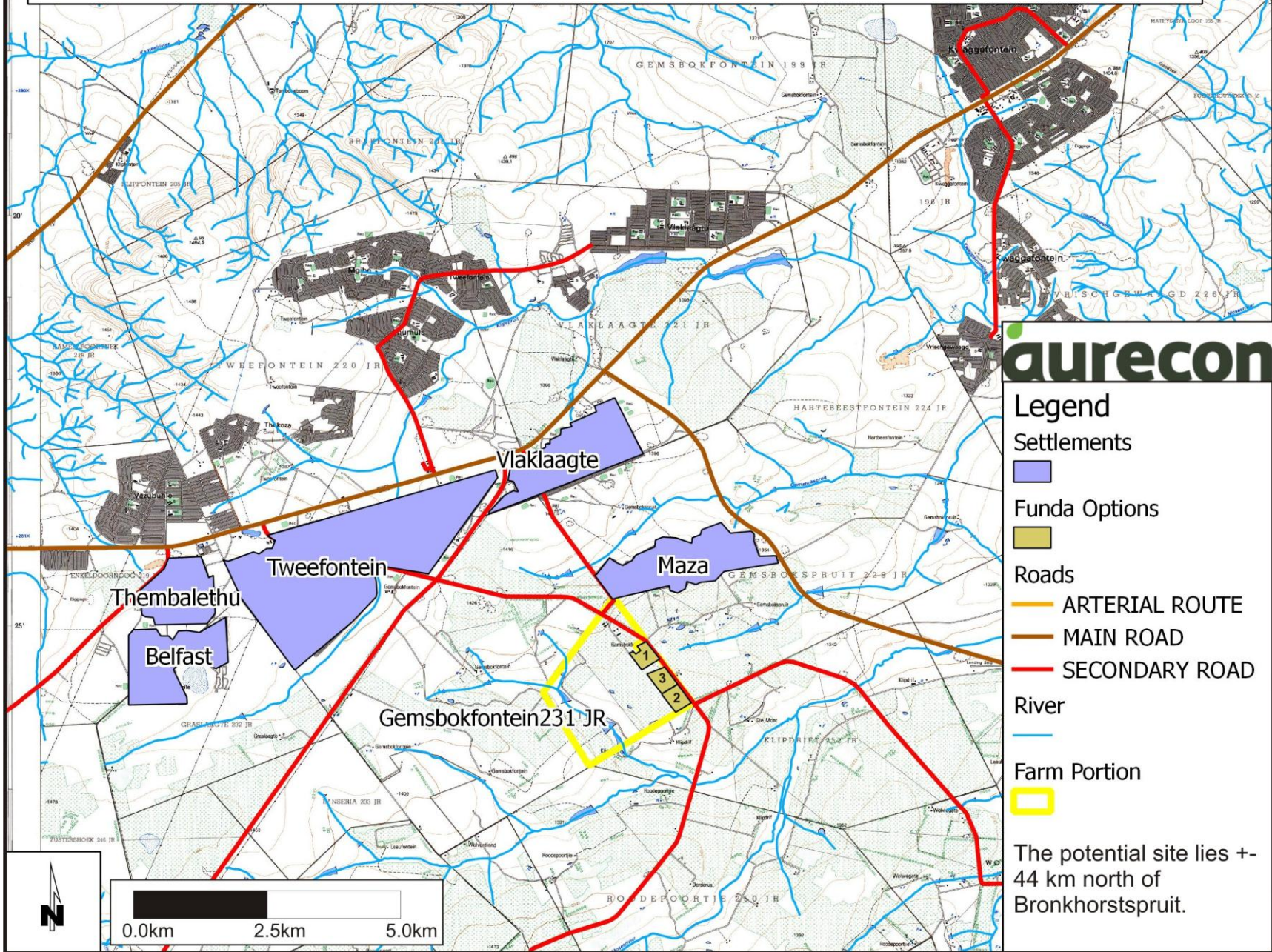
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# FundaMlimi Poultry Abatoir - Gemsbokfontien 231 JR Locality Map



**aurecon**

- Legend**
- Settlements
  - Funda Options
  - Roads
    - ARTERIAL ROUTE
    - MAIN ROAD
    - SECONDARY ROAD
  - River
  - Farm Portion
- The potential site lies +- 44 km north of Bronkhorstspuit.



Please be assured that your comments will form part of the final document to be

submitted to the decision-making authority

Please complete and return this response sheet to the Public Participation office:

**P.O. Box 3135**

**Nelspruit**

**1200**

**Fax: (013) 753 2116**

**E-mail:** [anne-mari.white@aurecongroup.com](mailto:anne-mari.white@aurecongroup.com)

Feel free to phone us on (013) 755 7055, should you not have access to fax or e-mail