

**BASIC ASSESSMENT (BA) PROCESS  
AND  
WATER USE LICENSE APPLICATION (WULA)  
FOR  
THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF 12 NEW CHICKEN BROILER HOUSES ON THE REMAINING EXTEND OF  
PORTION 13 OF THE FARM WAGENBEETJIES DRAAI 875, UMSHWATHI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, SITUATED IN  
UMGUNGUNDLOVU DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY**

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT AND INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE  
13 APRIL 2022**

### **1. PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT**

The aim of this document is to:

- Provide background information to parties interested in and/or affected by the proposed development;
- Provide information on the Basic Assessment (BA) Process to be followed for the proposed construction of 12 new chicken broiler houses on the remaining extent of portion 13 of the Farm Wagenbeetjies Draai 875, Umshwathi Local Municipality, situated in Umgungundlovu District Municipality.
- Indicate how you, as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP), can become involved in the environmental application process.

### **2. PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

Construction of 12 new chicken broiler houses with dimensions of 15m x 120m, each housing 50 000 chickens. All the houses/broilers will be on remaining extent of portion 13 of the farm Wagenbeetjies Draai 875 FT. Coordinates of the application areas: S 29° 28' 42", E 30° 29' 24" and a surface area of 8 ha.

Exigent Engineering Consultants cc has been appointed by Nyala Farm CC as the Environmental Assessment Practitioner to undertake the Basic Assessment process, including the Public Participation Process.

The site will have 12 houses adjacent to each other, with dimensions of 15m x 120m, each housing 50 000 chickens. The houses will be constructed with concrete, with a steel structure with sink roof. Each house will have its own woodchip heating system. The houses will be fenced off as a unit.

The location is also good as it is next to the R162 gravel road linking up with the Wartburg/Pietermartizburg tar road (R614). There is existing ESKOM infrastructure on the farm next to the proposed site.

### **3. BASIC ASSESSMENT (BA) PROCESS - LEGAL FRAMEWORK**

Notice is given for the Environmental Authorisation application to be submitted to the Provincial Department of Economic Development, Tourism & Environmental Affairs (DEDTEA) in terms of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, as amended, published in Government Gazette 38282, 4 December 2014 under section 24(5) and 44 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998), as amended, of the intent to carry out the Basic Assessment Process (in terms of listed activities 5(1) and 27 of Listing Notice 1 of 2014, as amended GNR 327, and listed activity 12(d)(xii) of Listing Notice 3 of 2014, as amended GNR 324).

Notice is also given in terms of S21 of the National Water Act (No 36 of 1998), for the Water Use License Application which will be submitted to the Department of Water and Sanitation.

#### **GN R327 - NEMA EIA Listing Notice 1 of 2014: as amended**

##### ***Activity 5:***

*The development and related operation 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.*

##### ***Activity 27:***

*The clearance of an area of 1 hectares or more, but less than 20 hectares of indigenous vegetation, except where such clearance of indigenous vegetation.*

## **GN R324 - NEMA EIA Listing Notice 3 of 2014: as amended**

### **Activity 12**

*The clearance of an area of 1 hectares or more, but less than 20 hectares of indigenous vegetation, except where such clearance of indigenous vegetation.*

The BA Process consists of the following two very closely interlinked processes:

- A technical process, which entails the identification and management of possible environmental issues/concerns; and
- A public participation process, which requires public consultation in order to assist in the identification of possible environmental and/or social issues and/or concerns.

### **4. ANTICIPATED ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES**

It is anticipated that the following environmental aspects will be significant and will hence be addressed by the project team during the assessment process:

- Impacts on vegetation and faunal habitats;
- Impacts on air quality
- Impacts on water resources;
- Impacts on health, noise, odour; and waste disposal;
- Impact on the road;
- Impacts on the socio-economic dynamics during construction.

Management guidelines will be developed for the above-mentioned issues and incorporated in an Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).

You are welcome to comment on the above list and provide additional anticipated issues and possible impacts that should be assessed.

### **5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS**

Public Participation is any process that involves the public in problem solving or decision-making and forms an integral part of the EIA. The Public Participation Process (PPP) provides people who may be affected by the proposed development, with an opportunity to provide comments and to raise issues of concern, or to make suggestions that may result in enhanced benefits for the project.

Comments and issues raised during the PPP will be captured, evaluated and included in a Comments and Response Report, which will be incorporated into the draft Basic Assessment Report (BAR). The draft BAR and draft EMPr will be made available for public review prior to submission to the relevant environmental authority.

### **6. APPROVING AUTHORITY**

The DEDTEA is the Competent Authority (CA) which will review the BAR. The DEDTEA has to reach a decision as to whether, and under what conditions, the project may proceed, based on environmental considerations.

The process to be followed is depicted in Figure 1 as per the amended 2014 NEMA regulations.

### **7. INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE**

Exigent Engineering Consultants has been appointed by Nyala Farm CC as the Environmental Assessment Practitioner to undertake the BA process, including the PPP.

We would like to encourage you to participate in this BA process.

Should you wish to get involved, receive project information, and/or to raise issues, please provide your written comments together with your name, contact details, preferred method of notification (e.g. email or fax) and an indication of any direct business, financial, personal or other interest which you have in the application by **17 May 2022**.

#### **EXIGENT ENGINEERING CONSULTANTS**

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**FIGURE 1: BASIC ASSESSMENT  
PROCESS**

**Announce Public Participation Process**

**Advert**

**Site Notice**

**Letter/BID**

**Receive comments from I&APs**

**Submission of Application**

**Draft BAR & EMPr**

**Public Review**

**Amend and submit Final BAR & EMPr to CA**

**Decision**

**Notify I&APs**

Figure 2. Locality Map

