

## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT – ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION APPLICATION FOR THE FOLLOWING PROJECT: EXPANSION OF CHICKEN BROILER FACILITIES FOR GROOTDRAAI BOERDERY (PTY) LTD. EIA REFERENCE NUMBER: TO BE CONFIRMED UPON SUBMISSION OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL APPLICATION TO THE COMPETENT AUTHORITY**

This Background Information Document (BID) serves to inform you, as a potential Interested and Affected Party (I&AP), of the application for Environmental Authorisation for the proposed Expansion of Chicken Broiler Facilities for Grootdraai Boerdery (Pty) Ltd project. The Environmental Authorisation application will be lodged with the Mpumalanga Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs (the Competent Authority [CA]) in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA), 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998), as amended, and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014 (Regulations in terms of Sections 24(5) and 44 of the NEMA, 1998), as amended.

Labesh (Pty) Ltd has been appointed by the applicant, Grootdraai Boerdery (Pty) Ltd, in terms of Regulation 12 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (GNR. 982 of 4 December 2014), as amended, as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) tasked with conducting the abovementioned application processes. Labesh complies with the necessary requirements of Regulation 13 of GNR. 982 of 4 December 2014 as amended.

### **DESCRIPTION OF CURRENT OPERATIONS**

Grootdraai Boerdery (Pty) Ltd currently has ten (10) poultry broiler houses on the property, each with a surface area of 1800m<sup>2</sup> (120x15m) and the ability to accommodate 25 000 chickens per house. The current total number of chickens at the facility during a production cycle is 250 000 chickens.

### **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

It is the intention of the applicant to construct and operate four (4) new chicken broiler houses. The altered footprint will include the four new chicken broiler houses and a bio-security buffer zone surrounding each house. The four new broiler houses will each occupy 1800m<sup>2</sup> as each house is built according to dimensions of 120m x 15m. Each broiler house will have the capacity to house 25 000 chickens and will the four broiler houses add a total of 100 000 chickens to the existing farm operations. The total number of chickens at the facility during a production cycle would be 350 000 chickens. The proposed site footprint will be approximately 2,56ha in extent.

### **PROJECT LOCATION**

GPS Coordinates: 26° 56'34.97"S; 29°18'27.22"E. Portion 0 of the Farm Grootdraai Nu Tours 579 IS. Lekwa Local Municipality, Gert Sibande District Municipality, Mpumalanga Province.

### **LEGISLATION RELEVANT TO THE PROJECT**

The proposed project requires Environmental Authorisation for the following listed activities in terms of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended:

- GNR. 983 of 4 December 2014 (Listing Notice 1), as amended: Activity No. 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 is required for (i) the undertaking of a linear activity; or (ii) maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan.
- GNR. 983 of 4 December 2014 (Listing Notice 1), as amended: Activity No. 40: The expansion and related operation of facilities for the construction of poultry, excluding chicks younger than 20 days, where the capacity of the facility will be increased by- (ii) more than 5000 poultry where the facility is situated outside an urban area.

The above-mentioned activities require a Basic Environmental Impact Assessment process to be conducted in support of the Environmental Authorisation application. The application will be submitted to the Competent Authority, the Mpumalanga Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs in due course. Upon acceptance of the application, the Competent Authority will issue a reference number for the application. This reference number will be communicated upon its receipt from the Competent Authority.

The following reports are applicable to this application for Environmental Authorisation:

- A Basic Assessment Report in accordance with Appendix 1 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended; and
- An Environmental Management Programme in accordance with Appendix 4 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESSES**

The public participation processes for the above-mentioned application are conducted according to the requirements of Chapter 6 of the EIA Regulations of 4 December 2014, as amended. Registration of Interested and Affected Parties (I&AP's) for the Environmental Authorisation application will be available from 31 January 2022 to 14 February 2022. Should you wish to register as an Interested and Affected Party for the proposed project and subsequently be kept informed of the progress of the project and all public participation opportunities as the application process proceeds, please complete the "Interested and Affected Party" registration form that forms part of this BID. Completed "Interested and Affected Party" registration forms should please be submitted to the EAP for the project, Lourens de Villiers, at the contact details provided below. Alternatively, you may also submit your name, contact information and interest in the matter, in writing, to the EAP at the contact details provided. Please send the registration information to the EAP before or on the **14<sup>th</sup> of February 2022**.

As required in the EIA Regulations, site notice boards will/have been placed on the project property boundary and a newspaper advertisement will be placed in the Beeld Newspaper on the 31<sup>st</sup> of January 2022.

The Basic Assessment Report will be made available to the public for review and commenting for a period of 30 days, at a later stage during this public participation process (exact dates will be communicated to registered I&APs). Electronic copies of the report will be provided to registered Interested and Affected Parties via email or registered post. Please inform us should you require a hard copy of the report.

Should you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact the EAP at the details provided below.

**Labesh (Pty) Ltd** – Lourens de Villiers

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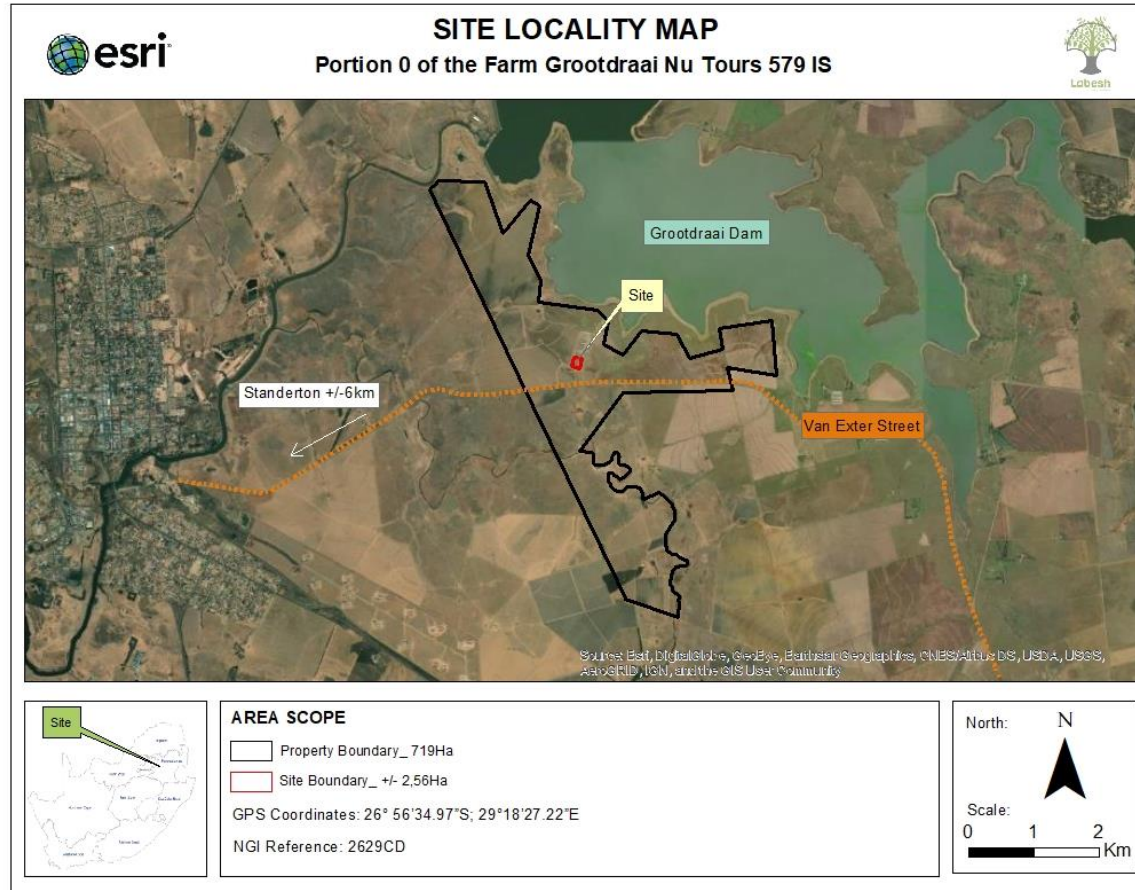


Figure 1: Site Locality Map

<b>INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTY REGISTRATION FORM</b>						
<b>EXPANSION OF CHICKEN BROILER FACILITIES FOR GROOTDRAAI BOERDERY (PTY) LTD; EIA REFERENCE NUMBER: TO BE CONFIRMED UPON SUBMISSION OF THE APPLICATION TO THE COMPETENT AUTHORITY.</b>						
<b>TITLE</b>						
<b>NAME</b>						
<b>SURNAME</b>						
<b>DO YOU REPRESENT AN ORGANISATION? IF SO, PLEASE SPECIFY ORGANISATION NAME</b>						
<b>CELL PHONE NUMBER</b>						
<b>TELEPHONE NUMBER (H)</b>						
<b>TELEPHONE NUMBER (W)</b>						
<b>FAX NUMBER</b>						
<b>EMAIL ADDRESS</b>						
<b>PHYSICAL ADDRESS</b>						
<b>FARM NAME AND PORTION (IF APPLICABLE)</b>						
<b>POSTAL ADDRESS</b>						
<b>PREFERRED WRITTEN CONTACT METHOD</b>	EMAIL		FAX		POST	
<b>PREFERRED TELEPHONIC CONTACT METHOD</b>	CELL		HOME		WORK	
<b>ARE THERE ANY OTHER PARTIES THAT YOU FEEL SHOULD BE NOTIFIED OF THIS PROPOSED PROJECT? IF SO, PLEASE PROVIDE CONTACT DETAILS FOR SAID PARTIES</b>						
<b>PLEASE INDICATE WHETHER YOU HAVE ANY COMMENTS OR CONCERNS REGARDING THE PROPOSED PROJECT</b>	YES		NO			
<b>IF YES, PLEASE DETAIL YOUR COMMENTS IN THE SECTION PROVIDED BELOW (ATTACH EXTRA PAGES IF NECESSARY)</b>						

