



## DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT

## Fourie's Poultry Farms (Pty) Ltd

**Draft Basic Assessment Report** 

**Locality: Potchefstroom** 

Departmental Ref No: NWP/EIA/110/2012

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## PROJECT DETAILS

North-West Department of Economic Development, Environment, Conservation and Tourism

Reference No.: NWP/EIA/110/2012

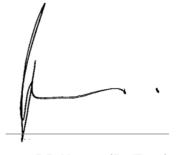
Project Title: Expansion of the Roodekraal free-range chicken farm

Project Number: FOU-ROO-12-10-22

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**Technical Reviewer: Brian Hayes** 



RB Hayes (Pr.Eng.)

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## **DEFINITIONS**

#### **Environment**

The surroundings (biophysical, social and economic) within which humans exist and that are made up of

- i. the land, water and atmosphere of the earth;
- ii. micro-organisms, plant and animal life;
- iii. any part or combination of (i) and (ii) and the interrelationships among and between them; and
- iv. the physical, chemical, aesthetic and cultural properties and conditions of the foregoing that influence human health and wellbeing.

## **Environmental Aspects**

Elements of an organisation's activities, products or services that can interact with the environment.

## **Environmental Degradation**

Refers to pollution, disturbance, resource depletion, loss of biodiversity, and other kinds of environmental damage; usually refers to damage occurring accidentally or intentionally as a result of human activities.

## **Environmental Impacts**

Any change to the environment, whether adverse or beneficial, wholly or partially resulting from an organisation's activities, products or services.

## **Environmental Impact Assessment**

A study of the environmental consequences of a proposed course of action.

## **Environmental Impact Report**

A report assessing the potential significant impacts as identified during the environmental impact assessment.

## **Environmental impact**

An environmental change caused by any human act.

#### Land use

The various ways in which land may be employed or occupied. Planners compile, classify, study and analyse land use data for many purposes, including the identification of trends, the forecasting of



space and infrastructure requirements, the provision of adequate land area for necessary types of land use, and the development or revision of comprehensive plans and land use regulations.

#### **Pollution Prevention**

Any activity that reduces or eliminates pollutants prior to recycling, treatment, control or disposal.

## **Public Participation Process**

A process of involving the public in order to identify needs, address concerns, to contribute to more informed decision making relating to a proposed project, programme or development.

## **Topography**

Topography, a term in geography, refers to the "lay of the land" or the physio-geographic characteristics of land in terms of elevation, slope and orientation.

## Vegetation

All of the plant life growing in and characterising a specific area or region; the combination of different plant communities found there.

#### Waste

Waste is unwanted or undesired material left over after the completion of a process. "Waste" is a human concept: in natural processes there is no waste, only inert end products.



## **ABBREVIATIONS**

BID - Background Information Document

BAR - Basic Assessment Report

**CRR** - Comments and Responses Report

**DWA** - Department of Water Affairs

EAP - Environmental Assessment PractitionerEIA - Environmental Impact Assessment

EIR - Environmental Impact Report

EMF - Environmental Management FrameworkEMP - Environmental Management Programme

GN - Government Notice

**I&AP** - Interested and Affected Party

NEMA - National Environmental Management Act, Act 107 of 1998, as amended

NW DEDECT - North West Department of Economic Development, Environment,

Conservation and Tourism

R - Regulation

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Fourie's Poultry Farms (Pty) Ltd. forms part of the poultry industry in the Potchefstroom area. The company owns a number of chicken farms that supply chicken to their two abattoirs. The Roodekraal free-range chicken farm supplies chickens at a live-weight of approximately 1.85kg to the abattoirs. Fourie's Poultry wishes to expand the Roodekraal free-range farm to meet an increasing demand for chicken in South Africa. The proposed expansion entails the construction of an additional free-range chicken house cluster on the farm and thus trigger the following listed activities (Refer to Table 1 for the description of the listed activities) in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA):

- No. 33306, R.544 of 18 June 2010, Listing Notice 1, Activity 22;
- No. 33306, R.544 of 18 June 2010, Listing Notice 1, Activity 32;
- No. 33306, R.546 of 18 June 2010, Listing Notice 3, Activity 4;
- No. 33306, R.546 of 18 June 2010, Listing Notice 3, Activity 12; and
- No. 33306, R.546 of 18 June 2010, Listing Notice 3, Activity 13.

A Basic Environmental Impact Assessment, further known as Basic Assessment, is required to obtain authorisation for all activities listed in Government Notice R544 Listing Notice 1 (Environmental Impact Assessment regulations of 10 December 2010) of NEMA.

The Basic Assessment process will aim to achieve the following:

- To provide a detailed assessment of the environment affected by the listed activity;
- To assess impacts on the study area in terms of environmental criteria;
- To identify and recommend appropriate mitigation measures for potentially significant environmental impacts; and
- To undertake a fully inclusive public participation process to ensure that I&APs issues and concerns are recorded and addressed.

The purpose of this document is to supply the North West Department of Economic Development, Environment, Conservation and Tourism with the requested information pertaining to NEMA, as amended, and Regulation 22 of the Environmental Impact Assessment regulations, 2010.

Contained in this document is a brief overview of the activity and site specific information for the proposed expansion project (location, topography, surrounds, vegetation, etc.). The latter part of the document contains an environmental management framework (including a reflection of applicable legislation), the public participation process followed, the need and desirability of the project, identified alternatives, a quantitative risk assessment, an impact statement, conclusion and recommendations.



## **Document layout**

#### Section one - Introduction

The purpose of this section is to provide a brief overview of the current operation, proposed activity and locality, applicable infrastructure and a description of the listed activities triggered in terms of NEMA.

#### Section two - Nature and extent of the environment affected by the activity

The status of the environment in which the farm is situated is discussed in section 2. The environmental areas, geology, climate, topography, soil, land use & land capability, fauna & flora, surface water, groundwater, archaeological & cultural sites, visual aspects, air quality and socioeconomic aspects are described in this section.

#### Section three - Legislation and guidelines applicable

All environmental legislation and guidelines applicable to the proposed project are listed in this section.

#### Section four - Public participation process

Section 4 provides information pertaining to the consultation process that was followed during this Basic Assessment process.

#### Section five - Need and desirability for the activity

This section describes the need and desirability of this project from the perspective of the developer, the local community and the district municipal area.

#### Section six - Identified alternatives

Section six considers alternatives to provide a framework for sound decision-making based on the principles of sustainable development.

#### Section seven - Environmental Impact Assessment

In section seven, all activities related to the proposed expansion of the free-range farm that could have an environmental impact, are identified. The environmental risk of each impact was determined based on a combination of parameters, such as extent and duration. The feasibility of the project is then determined based on the outcome of the risk assessment, together with the recommendations made by specialists and the EAP.



## 1. INTRODUCTION

Shangoni Management Services (Pty) Ltd. was appointed, as an independent environmental practitioner, to assist the applicant, Fourie's Poultry (Pty) Ltd, in complying with the 2010 EIA Regulations in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA), as amended.

An application to undertake a Basic Assessment process was submitted to the identified competent authority, the North West Department of Economic Development, Environment, Conservation and Tourism. The Department subsequently registered the project and the formal Basic Assessment process was thereby initiated.

All the findings from the Basic Assessment process are included in this report. Also included in the report is an Environmental Management Programme (EMP) that addresses appropriate mitigation steps for the different phases of the project.

## 1.1 Applicant

| Name of Applicant  | Fourie's Poultry Farms (Pty) Ltd                             |
|--|--|
| Contact Person   | Deon Fourie  |
| Postal Address   | Private Bag X1275, Potchefstroom, 2520                       |
| Telephone No.  | 018 293 0202   |
| Cell phone No.   | 082 554 5203   |
| Fax No.  | 018 297 3573   |
| Farm name and portion on which the activities take place | Portion 2 (remaining extent) of the farm Roodekraal 454 I.Q. |
| Co-ordinates of operation                                | 26°50′56.62″S; 27°10′51.03″E                                 |

## 1.2 Appointed Environmental Assessment Practitioner

| Name of firm   | Shangoni Management Services (Pty) Ltd. |  |
|----------------|---|--|
| Postal address | PO Box 74726                            |  |
| Postal address | Lynwood Ridge                           |  |
|                | Pretoria                                |  |
|                | 0040                                    |  |
|                |   |  |



| Telephone No.                | (012) 807 7036  |   |  |  |
|------------------------------|---|---|--|--|
| Fax                          | (012) 807 1014/086 643 5360   |   |  |  |
| E-mail                       | lizette@shangoni.co.za  |   |  |  |
| Team of Environmental Assess | ment Practitioners on project   |   |  |  |
| Name                         | Qualifications Responsibility   |   |  |  |
| Mr. H.L. de Villiers         | Bsc. (Hons) (PU for CHE)<br>MSc.(UP)  | EIA Project Leader and Co-<br>ordinator |  |  |
| Ms. Lizette Crous            | Post Graduate Certificate<br>Environmental Management<br>(University of London) | EAP                                     |  |  |
| Ms. Patricia van der Walt    | B.Sc. (Hons) (Applied Science in Environmental Technology)                      | Jnr. EAP                                |  |  |

Detailed CV's for the project team are appended (Appendix G).

#### 1.3 Current situation

The Fourie's Poultry Roodekraal free-range farm has three existing free-range chicken clusters (Refer to Figure 1). Each cluster has ten free-range houses that can accommodate 150 000 chickens per production cycle (15 000 chickens per house).

There is no municipal supply of water to the farm. Groundwater is abstracted from a number of boreholes on the property and stored in JoJo tanks at each cluster. From the JoJo tanks the water is fed into the houses using an automated stainless steel drinking system.

Chicken feed is stored in 15 ton feed silos next to each chicken houses. The feed is fed into the houses by a spiral auger and falls into feeding pans.

The interaction between chickens and their micro-environment is a significant problem in poultry production. A change in micro-environment affects the chicken's growth rate, feeding efficiency, body weight and mortality rate. Changes in a facilities' micro-environment can be caused by factors such as seasonal changes, poor lighting and inadequate stocking density. A well-defined micro-environment should therefore be maintained for optimum production.

Each house is therefore built to specifications that ensure optimal health and therefore optimal growth of the chickens. The frame of each house consists of a steel beam structure, specially designed and pre-fabricated off-site. During construction, the steel frames are assembled on the prepared concrete



floor, walled and roofed (tin roof). The walls and ceilings of each house are cladded internally with insulation material.

The system uses suspended drinker lines with special nipple attachments that allow for efficient distribution of clean drinking water to the chickens. The height of the drinker lines and feeding pans are adjusted as the chickens grow. The nipple attachments on the drinker lines each act as a non-return valve, preventing unnecessary spillage of water within the houses. This also assists in keeping the bedding within the houses dry.

Coal-fired exothermic hot water generators are used to heat the free-range houses. Insulation and other design aspects of these houses ensure that heat is captured and retained for longer periods.



Figure 1: The three existing free-range clusters

#### 1.3.1 Current operating activities

Each production cycle is 54 days long, including five days for cleaning and disinfection of the houses. There are 6.7 production cycles per year. When the free-range chickens are approximately 1.85kg in weight, they are caught and transported to the Fourie's Poultry abattoirs in Potchefstroom for slaughtering.

#### Litter (manure and bedding mixture)

Sunflower shells are used as bedding material in the houses. The bedding material is manually turned to ensure that it remains dry. Each house produces approximately 15 tons of litter (mixture of manure and bedding material) per production cycle. After each cycle, the litter is gathered and collected with

brooms and shovels into bags that are loaded onto trucks for removal off site. The litter is then removed by a feedlot operator.

#### **Mortalities**

Much care is given to the overall well-being of the chickens throughout each production cycle, however, there will always be a percentage of the chickens that will not survive (mortalities) due to the limitations and challenges of each production cycle. The mortality rate is estimated to be between 3 and 8%. Mortalities are removed from the houses and placed in a separate, locked mortality room outside the bio-security boundary of each cluster. The mortalities are collected on a daily basis and taken to the Fourie's Poultry rendering facility, situated outside of Potchefstroom.

#### Domestic waste and wastewater

Twelve employees currently work at the farm. Domestic waste generated on the premises is removed by the applicant on a regular basis to the Phelophepa landfill site, managed by the Tlokwe City Council.

#### Water Use

As there is no municipal water, the farm is dependent on two boreholes for the provision of clean water for domestic use and farming activities. Water is mainly used at the houses for drinking water and to wash the houses. Abstracted groundwater is stored in five 5 000 litre JoJo tanks at each cluster. Shift soap and GPC 8 sanitiser (both biodegradable) are used to clean and disinfect each house. Wash water is channelled away from the houses into the surrounding environment.

Domestic wastewater (sewage) generated on site, is disposed of into French drains.

#### **Electricity**

Eskom electricity is the main power supplier. A backup diesel generator is also available at each cluster in the event of a power failure. The houses are directed from East to West so that they can be exposed to as much sunlight, thereby minimising electricity usage for heating in the winter months.

## 1.4 Proposed Activity

Fourie's Poultry would like to expand their Roodekraal free-range chicken farm to meet an increasing demand for chicken in South Africa. The proposed expansion entails the construction of an additional free-range chicken house cluster (Refer to Figure 2 for proposed site). This cluster will consist of ten houses, each with a capacity to house 15 000 chickens per production cycle. The total development footprint of the new cluster will be approximately 5.5ha. This will include the houses, office and residential buildings for workers, internal road infrastructure, open spaces between the houses and a bio-security buffer zone surrounding all buildings.



The new cluster will be built to the same specifications and operated in the same way as the existing clusters. It will add 150 000 chickens to the current production capacity of the farm.



Figure 2: Aerial layout of the proposed site (Google Earth).

## 1.5 Environmental Authorisation Requirements

In accordance with the regulations published in GN R. 543, R. 544 and R. 546 of 18 June 2010, in terms of section 24D of the National Environment Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998), as amended, the applicant is required to carry out a Basic Assessment for the following activities (Refer to Table 1):



Table 1: Listed activities being applied for (NEMA)

| <b>Listed Activity</b> | Description as per the Listing Notice   | Reason for triggering the listed activity                                    |
|------------------------|---|--|
| Listing notice 1,      | The construction of a road, outside urban areas,                              | A new access road will be built to gain access to the farm.                  |
| R. 544 of 18           | (i) with a reserve wider than 13,5 meters or,                                 |  |
| June 2010,             | (ii) where no reserve exists where the road is wider than 8                   |  |
| Activity No. 22        | metres, or  |  |
|                        | (iii) for which an environmental authorisation was obtained                   |  |
|                        | for the route determination in terms of activity 5 in                         |  |
|                        | Government Notice 387 of 2006 or activity 18 in Notice 545                    |  |
|                        | of 2010.  |  |
| Listing notice 1,      | The expansion of facilities for the concentration of poultry,                 | An existing free-range chicken farm (situated outside of an urban area) will |
| R. 544 of 18           | excluding chicks younger than 20 days, where the capacity                     | be expanded through the construction of an additional cluster of chicken     |
| June 2010,             | of the facility will be increased by:   | houses. The cluster will consist of ten (10) free-range chicken houses.      |
| Activity No. 32(ii)    | (ii) more than 5 000 poultry per facility situated outside an                 | Each will accommodate 15 000 chickens per production cycle. The new          |
|                        | urban area  | cluster will therefore house 150 000 chickens per production cycle.          |
| Listing notice 3,      | The construction of a road wider than 4 metres with a                         | A new access road will be built to gain access to the farm. The road will    |
| R. 546 of 18           | reserve less than 13,5 metres.  | fall within the North West Aquatic Critical Biodiversity Area 2, the North   |
| June 2010,             | (c) In North West:  | West Terrestrial Critical Biodiversity Area 2 and the North West Ecological  |
| Activity No. 4         | i. Outside urban areas, in:   | Support Area 2. The site is approximately 8km from the Vredefort Dome.       |
|                        | (aa) A protected area identified in terms of NEMPAA, excluding conservancies; |  |
|                        | (bb) National Protected Area Expansion Strategy Focus                         |  |
|                        | areas:  |  |
|                        | (cc) Sensitive areas as identified in an environmental                        |  |
|                        | management framework as contemplated in chapter 5 of the                      |  |
|                        | Act and as adopted by the competent authority;                                |  |
|                        | (dd) Sites or areas identified in terms of an International                   |  |
|                        | Convention;   |  |
|                        | (ee) Critical biodiversity areas (Terrestrial Type 1 and 2 and                |  |
|                        | Aquatic Type 1) as identified in systematic biodiversity plans                |  |
|                        | adopted by the competent authority or in bioregional plans;                   |  |
|                        | (ff) Core areas in biosphere reserves;  |  |
|                        | (gg) Areas within 10 kilometres from national parks or world                  |  |



|  | heritage sites or 5 kilometres from any other protected area   |  |
|--|--|--|
|  | identified in terms of NEMPAA or from a biosphere reserve.   |  |
| Listing notice 3,<br>R. 546 of 18<br>June 2010,<br>Activity No. 12 | The clearance of an area of 300 square meters or more of vegetation where 75% or more of the vegetative cover constitutes indigenous vegetation.  (a) Within any critically endangered or endangered ecosystem listed in terms of section 52 of the NEMBA or prior to the publication of such a list, within an area that has been identified as critically endangered in the National Spatial Biodiversity Assessment 2004;  (b) Within critical biodiversity areas identified in bioregional plans;  (c) Within the littoral active zone or 100 meters inland from high water mark of the sea or an estuary, whichever distance is the greater, excluding where such removal will occur behind the development setback line on erven in urban areas.   | An area of approximately 5.5ha (55 000m²) will be cleared to construct the chicken houses and associated infrastructure. The site falls within the North West Aquatic Critical Biodiversity Area 2, the North West Terrestrial Critical Biodiversity Area 2 and the North West Ecological Support Area 2.  |
| Listing notice 3,<br>R. 546 of 18<br>June 2010,<br>Activity No. 13 | The clearance of an area of 1 hectare or more of vegetation where 75% or more of the vegetative cover constitutes indigenous vegetation, except where such removal of vegetation is required for:  (1) the undertaking of a process or activity included in the list of waste management activities published in terms of section 19 of the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008), in which case the activity is regarded to be excluded from this list.  (2) the undertaking of a linear activity falling below the thresholds mentioned in Listing Notice 1 in terms of GN No. 544 of 2010.  (a) Critical biodiversity areas and ecological support areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority.  (b) National Protected Area Expansion Strategy Focus | An area of approximately 5.5ha (55 000m²) will be cleared to construct the chicken houses and associated infrastructure. The site falls within the North West Aquatic Critical Biodiversity Area 2, the North West Terrestrial Critical Biodiversity Area 2 and the North West Ecological Support Area 2. The site is approximately 8km from the Vredefort Dome. |



areas.

#### (e) In North West:

- i. Outside urban areas, in:
- (aa) A protected area identified in terms of NEMPAA, excluding conservancies;
- (bb) National Protected Area Expansion Strategy Focus areas;
- (cc) Sensitive areas as identified in an environmental management framework as contemplated in chapter 5 of the Act and as adopted by the competent authority;
- (dd) Sites or areas identified in terms of an International Convention:
- (ee) Critical biodiversity areas (Type 1 only) and ecological support areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority or in bioregional plans;
- (ff) Core areas in biosphere reserves;
- (gg) Areas within 10 kilometers from national parks or world heritage sites or 5 kilometers from any other protected area identified in terms of NEMPAA or from the core areas of a biosphere reserve.



## 1.6 Proposed Locality

The proposed site is on Portion 2 (remaining extent) of the farm Roodekraal 454 IQ, approximately 16.7km to the south-east of Potchefstroom. The farm is 248.6113ha in size and lies within the Tlokwe City Council (local municipality) of the Dr. Kenneth Kaunda District Municipality. The GPS coordinates for the proposed site are: 26°50′56.62″S; 27°10′51.03″E. Refer to figure 3 and Figure 4 for a site photograph and the locality map, respectively.

Table 2: Direction and distance to the nearest towns.

| Closest town        | Approximate distance from site | Direction from town |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| Potchefstroom (CBD) | 16.7km                         | South-east          |
| Vredefort (CBD)     | 25km                           | North-west          |
| Parys (CBD)         | 27.8km                         | West of north-west  |



Figure 3: Example of a free-range chicken farm cluster. The feed silos are also shown next to each house.



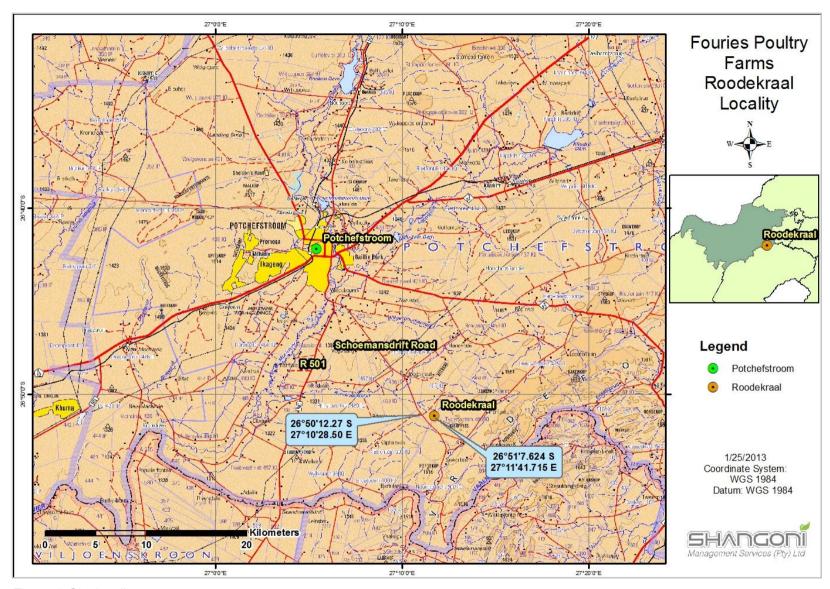


Figure 4: Site locality map.



# 2. NATURE AND EXTENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT AFFECTED BY ACTIVITY

The following section provides a description of the baseline or status quo environment as well as the social-economic parameters that characterise the region and study area, and is derived from various specialist studies as well as data sources including aerial photographs, topo-cadastral maps and national and provincial databases.

## 2.1 Biophysical aspects affected

#### 2.1.1 Regional climate

#### Rainfall

The site lies within a warm-temperate region with summer rainfall. The area receives a mean annual rainfall of more than 593mm per annum (Mucina and Rutherford, 2006). The minimum and maximum long-term temperature range for the site is given in the figure below.

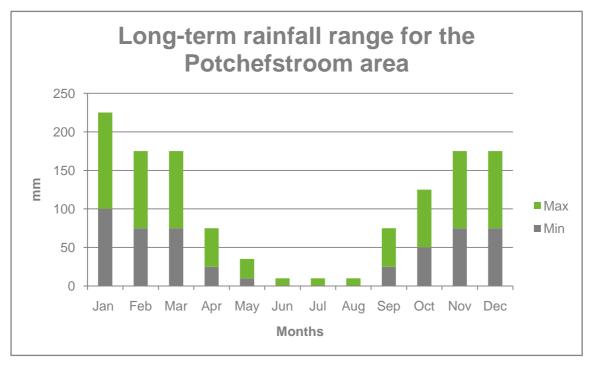


Figure 5: Long-term rainfall range for the area (AGIS Comprehensive Atlas, 2007)

#### **Temperature**

Summer temperatures in the area are high and severe frost is frequently experienced during winter months (Mucina and Rutherford, 2006). The minimum and maximum temperature range for the site is given in the figure below.



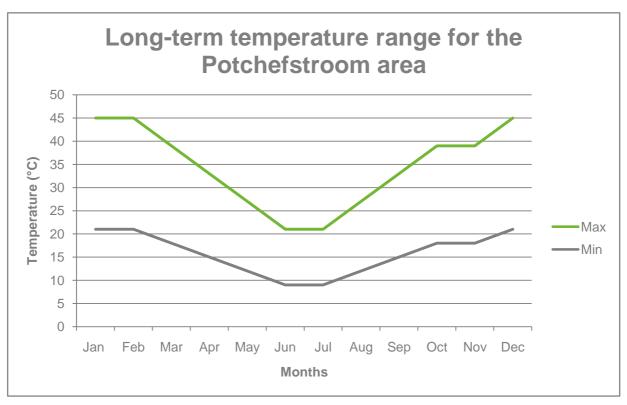


Figure 6: Long-term temperature range for the area (AGIS Comprehensive Atlas, 2007)

#### Wind

The site is approximately 16.7km from Potchefstroom. Wind data from the Potchefstroom weather station has therefore been used for this application. The wind roses are given in the figures below (www.windfinder.com).



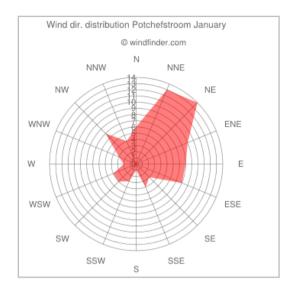


Figure 7: Wind Rose - January

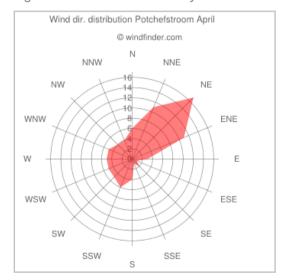


Figure 10: Wind Rose - April

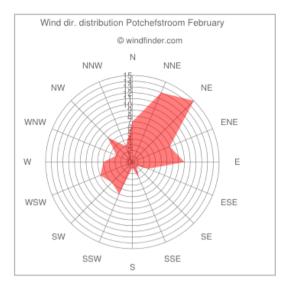


Figure 8: Wind Rose – February

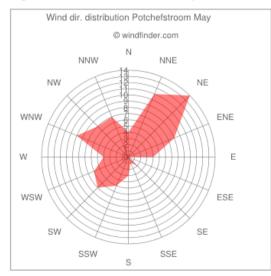


Figure 11: Wind Rose – May

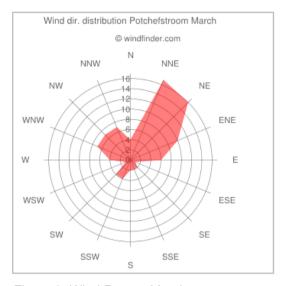


Figure 9: Wind Rose – March

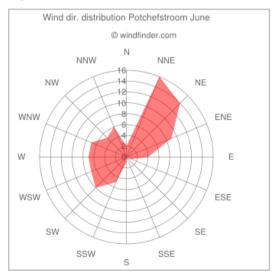


Figure 12: Wind Rose - June



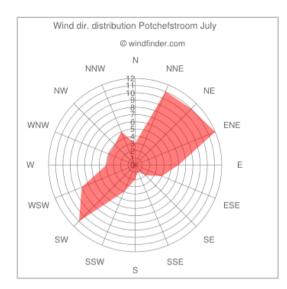


Figure 13: Wind Rose – July

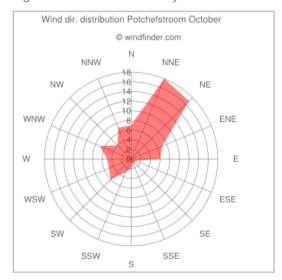


Figure 16: Wind Rose - October

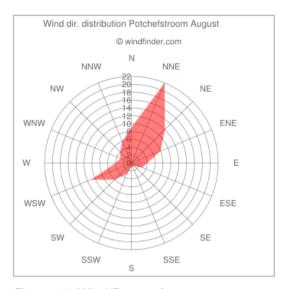


Figure 14: Wind Rose – August

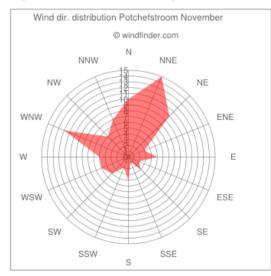


Figure 17: Wind Rose - November

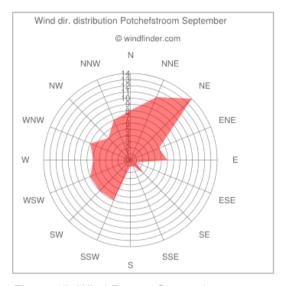


Figure 15: Wind Rose – September

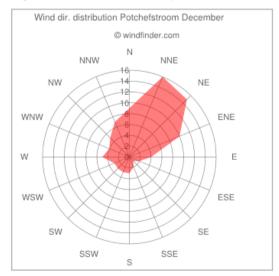


Figure 18: Wind Rose - December



#### 2.1.2 Geology

The site is mainly underlain by vaalian and carbonate rocks of the Malmani Subgroup (Chuniespoort group), with a small area to the south that is underlain by vaalian and siliciclastic rocks (Refer to Figure 19).

#### 2.1.3 Topography

The area consists of slightly undulating plains with rocky chert ridges that dissect the landscape. The elevation of the site is between 1 320 and 1 400 metres above mean sea level (Refer to Figure 20). The slope of the site is up to 5% (AGIS, 2007).

The proposed free-range chicken cluster will be approximately 10km east from the R501 and approximately 12km south from the R53. The proposed cluster will therefore not be visible from the R501 and R53. A dirt road runs along the western side of the site however the incident of viewers on this road will be very low.

#### 2.1.4 Soils

Soil properties important in environmental management include the soil textural class, soil mineralogy, bulk density, porosity and organic carbon content. The property is dominated by undifferentiated structureless soils. Structureless soils are loose and sandy and usually comprise high-potential agricultural land (Refer to Figure 21).

Table 3: Site specific conditions obtained from the Agricultural Geo-Referenced Information System.

| Parameter                            | Area                 | Condition  |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------|--|
| Soil type                            | Larger northern part | Red, yellow and/or greyish soils with a high base status.  |
|                                      | Southern tip         | Soils with minimal development, usually shallow, on hard or weathering rock, with or without intermittent diverse soils. |
| Soil susceptibility to water erosion | Larger northern part | Land with low to moderate susceptibility to water erosion. Generally gently to moderately sloping land.                  |
|                                      | Southern tip         | Land with low susceptibility to water erosion. Generally level to gently sloping.  |



| Soil susceptibility to wind   | Larger northern part | Sandy loams dominant     |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|
| erosion                       |                      |                          |
|                               | Southern tip         | Loamy sands sub-dominant |
| Soils with special management | Entire site          | Scarce or absent         |
| requirements (shifting sands, |                      |                          |
| soils with textural contrast, |                      |                          |
| soils with poor or impeded    |                      |                          |
| drainage, swelling clays and  |                      |                          |
| non- saline soils)            |                      |                          |

#### 2.1.5 Land Use and Land Capability

The property is currently used for free-range chicken production. Present on the site is a farm house and one of the three existing Fouries Poultry Roodekraal free-range chicken house clusters together with the associated road infrastructure.

The remainder of the property including the site to be developed consists of cultivated land, unimproved grassland, thicket and bushland, as described by the Tlokwe City Council Spatial Development Framework (SDF) (Refer to Figure 22). The land use (rearing of free-range chickens) is considered to be in compliance with the SDF.

#### 2.1.6 Fauna and Flora

The site is situated in the Highveld Grassland Biome at the intersection of the Rand Highveld Grassland and Carletonville Dolomite Grassland vegetation types (Mucina & Rutherford 2006) (Refer to Figure 23).

According to the South African National Biodiversity Institute Biodiversity GIS, 2007, the proposed site lies within the North West Aquatic Critical Biodiversity Area 2, the North West Terrestrial Critical Biodiversity Area 2 and the North West Ecological Support Area 2 and is approximately 8km from the Vredefort Dome.

As a result of the above, to determine the impact of the proposed development on the fauna and flora of the proposed site, an ecological fauna and flora habitat survey was conducted by Mr. R.F. Terblanche of Anthene Ecological CC. The habitat survey comprised of the following components:

- Two visits to the site to record the fauna and flora present at the site;
- The conservation importance of the site was evaluated based on the presence or absence of threatened plant and animal species; and
- Incorporation of all available information into a report. This includes the identification of potential
  ecological impacts of the proposed development and possible mitigation measures that can be
  applied.



The table below outlines the main habitat and landscape characteristics of the site abstracted from the ecological habitat survey report. The full report can be viewed under Appendix D.

Table 4: Main habitat and landscape characteristics of the site (Terblanche, 2013)

| Habitat Feature   | Description  |  |
|---|--|--|
| Topography  | The site proposed for the developments lies on gentle slopes or flats in an area that is slightly undulating.  |  |
| Rockiness   | No rocky ridges are present at the site proposed for development.  |  |
| Presence of wetlands  | A small non-perennial watercourse is present at the site near the footprint proposed for the development.  |  |
| Vegetation  | Site is characterised by well developed grass layer with indigenous tree species such as Acacia karroo (sweet thorn), Searsia pyroides (taaibos), Ziziphus mucronata (buffalo-thorn) and Searsia lancea (karee) that are also well represented. A conspicuous presence of the shrub Asparagus laricinus (katbos) at the site is characteristic of these encroachment where this plant species is frequent. The dwarf shrub Ziziphus zeyheriana (dwarf buffalo-thorn) is present in more open areas among the grass. Grass layer consists of indigenous grass present species such as Cymbopogon caesius, Themeda triandra, Hyparrhenia hirta, Elionurus muticus, Eragrostis chloromelas, Aristida congesta and Cynodon dactylon. Herbaceous plant species include species such as Hilliardiella oligocephala, Helichrysum nudifolium, Helichrysum rugulosum and Conyza podocephala. The climber Clematis brachiata (traveller's joy) is also common at places at the site. |  |
| Signs of disturbances   | Vegetation at the site is in fair condition.   |  |
| Connectivity of natural vegetation at the site and between the site and surrounding areas | The site allocated for the proposed development is not part of a corridor of particular conservation importance  |  |



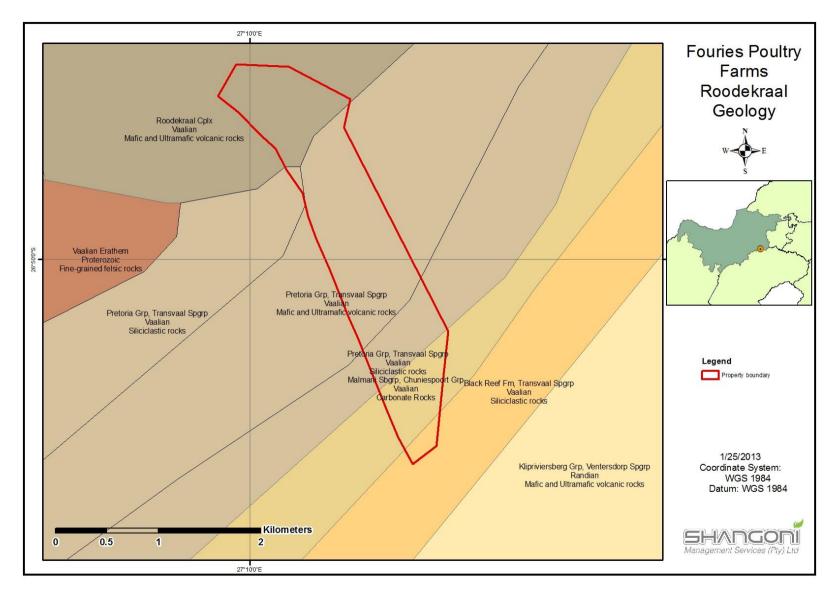


Figure 19: Geology of the site..



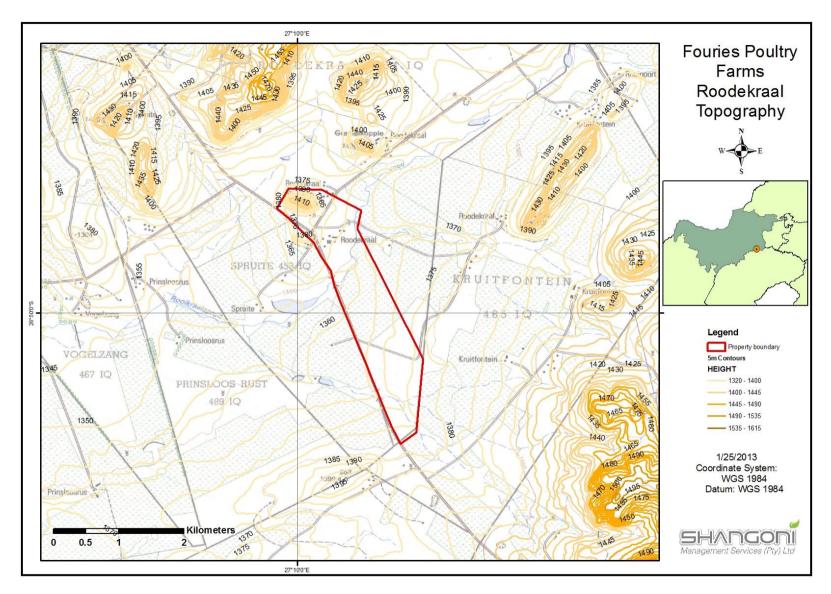


Figure 20: Topography of the site.



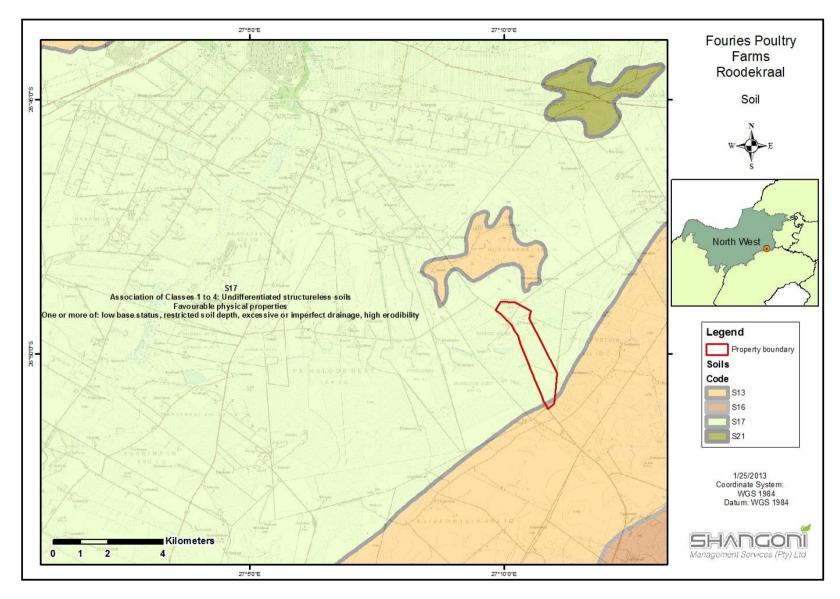


Figure 21: Soils present at the site



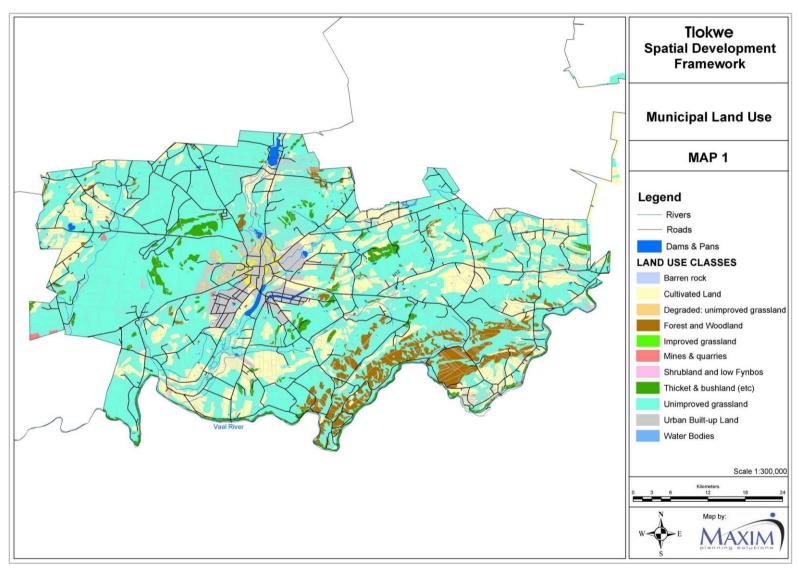


Figure 22: SDF for Tlokwe Local Municipality



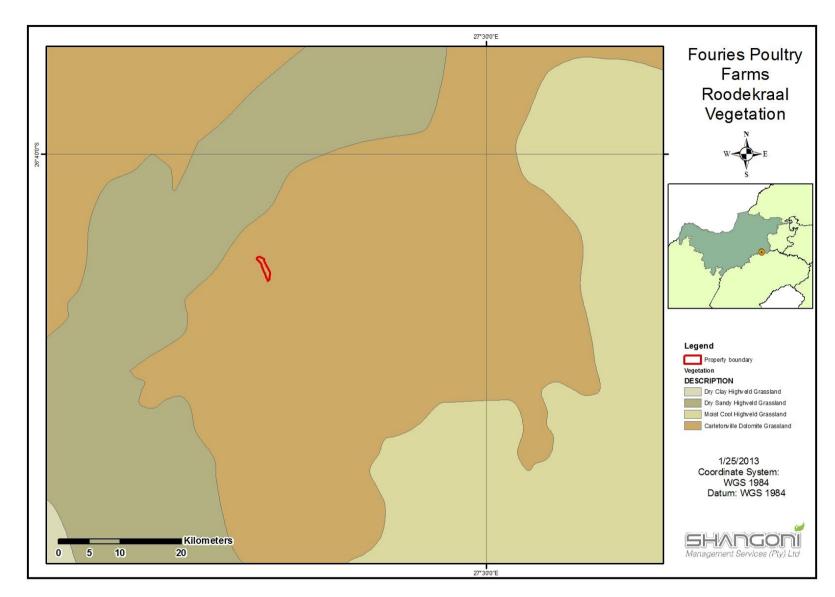


Figure 23: Vegetation at the site.

#### 2.1.7 Water

#### **Surface Water**

The proposed site lies within the Vaal River catchment, in the upper reaches of the Vaal River (Upper Vaal Water Management Area or WMA). The catchment covers an area of 192 000km<sup>2</sup> and the mean annual runoff for this area of the Vaal River catchment is approximately 1 100 million m<sup>3</sup>/annum. (PDNA et al., 2004).

A tributary of the Mooi River flows past the western side of the Roodekraal farm. This tributary joins the Mooi River to the Rooikraalspruit, that runs through the Roodekraal farm. A channelled valley bottom wetland can be found to the western side of the Roodekraal farm (Refer to Figure 24 and Figure 25).

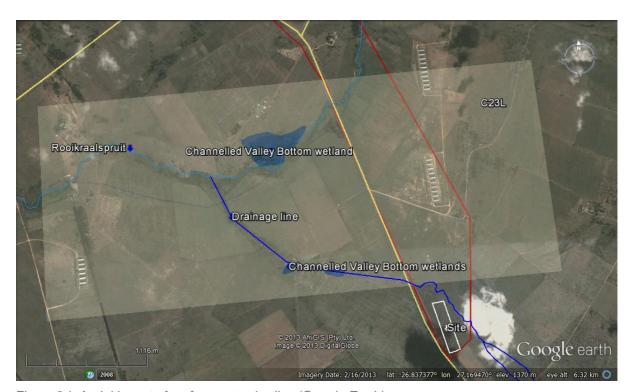


Figure 24: Aerial layout of surface water bodies (Google Earth).

#### Groundwater

The Roodekraal free-range chicken farm falls within the C23L quaternary drainage region (Refer to Figure 25). Within this region 75m<sup>3</sup> of groundwater may be abstracted per hectare of a property (DWAF, 2004). As the farm is 248.6113ha in size, 18 645.8475m<sup>3</sup> of groundwater may be abstracted on the farm per annum.

#### **Water Authority**

The relevant Water Authority is the Upper Vaal regional office, situated in Pretoria.



#### 2.1.8 Air Quality

#### **Emissions**

Emissions generated on a free-range chicken farm include:

- Ammonia emissions from chicken manure;
- Carbon dioxide, Carbon monoxide, Sulphur dioxide, Nitrous oxides and Particulate matter emissions from coal fired exothermic hot water generators;
- Particulate emissions from coal and ash storage bunkers;
- Particulate matter (Dust) from trucks driving to and from clusters; and
- · Vehicles exhaust emissions.

The Fourie's Poultry Roodekraal free-range farm has three existing free-range chicken clusters, located near the proposed site.

#### Noise

Noise at and around the proposed site is generated by farming activities, limited vehicle movement, free-range chicken raising activities and some residential activities.

## 2.1.9 Sites of archaeological and cultural interest

A Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) was conducted by Anton Pelser of A Pelser Archaeological Consulting. The aim of the study was to locate and/or identify any sites, features or objects of cultural heritage (archaeological and historical) significance at the proposed site and surrounding area (Refer to Section 7: Environmental Impact Assessment Table 18 for the results of the HIA).



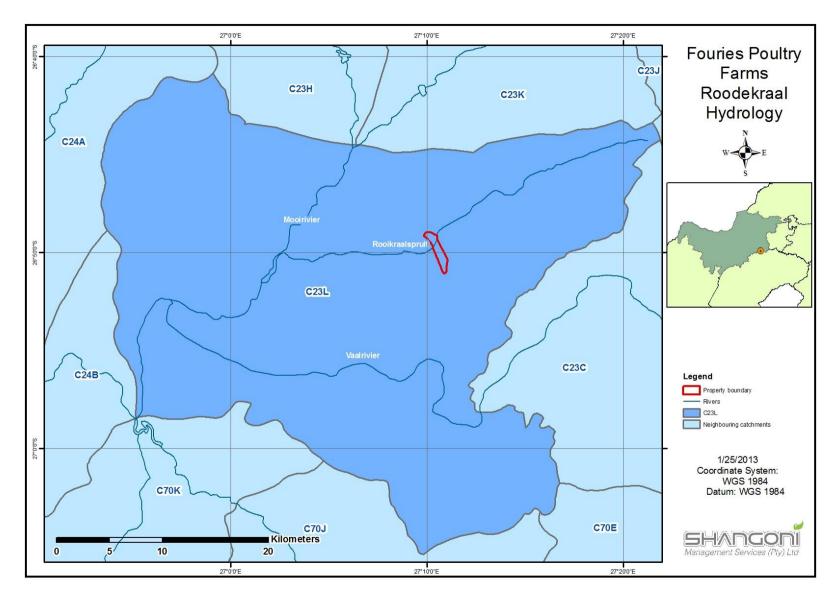


Figure 25: Hydrology of the site.



## 2.2 Socio-economic aspects

The site is located within the Tlokwe City Council in the Dr. Kenneth Kaunda District Municipality.

## 2.2.1 Demography

According to the 2011 census, 162 762 people formed part of the 52 537 households in the Tlokwe City Council. The average household size is 3.1 people per household. There are 96.6 men for every 100 women in the municipality and the table below shows the age structure of the municipality.

Table 5: Tlokwe City Council Council age structure - Census 2011 (Statistics South Africa, 2011).

| Age Group             | Percentage (%) |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| Under 15 years of age | 25.2           |
| 15 to 64 years of age | 69.1           |
| Over 65 years of age  | 5.7            |
| Total population      | 100            |

## 2.2.2 Major economic activities

Economic activity in the Tlokwe City Council is driven by the manufacturing, services, business sectors and agriculture. The North-West University plays a large role in the provision of services (www.localgovernment.co.za/locals/view/194/tlokwe-local-municipality). The area is also known for diamond mining and the production of maize, sorghum and sunflower (Tlokwe City Council, 2012).

#### 2.2.3 Unemployment and employment

The 2011 census found that the official unemployment rate was 21.6% and the youth unemployment rate (15 to 34 years of age) was 29.5%. The dependency ratio is 44.7 per 100 people between the ages of 15 and 64 years (Statistics South Africa, 2011).



## 3. LEGISLATION AND GUIDELINES APPLICABLE

# 3.1 Laws of general application

- Constitution of the RSA, 1996 (Act No. 108 of 1996)
- National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998)
- Environment Conservation Act, 1989 (Act No. 73 of 1989, as amended)
- Promotion of Access to Information Act, 2000 (Act No. 2 of 2000, as amended)

# 3.2 Atmospheric emissions

- National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act, 2004 (Act No. 39 of 2004)
- Environment Conservation Act, 1989 (Act No. 73 of 1989) Noise Control
- Regulations in terms of Section 25 of the Environment Conservation Act, 1989

## 3.3 Water Management

National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998)

## 3.4 Waste management

National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008)

# 3.5 Planning of new activities

National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998), as amended

# 3.6 Land and Soil Management

- National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998), as amended
- Environmental Conservation Act, 1989 (Act No. 73 of 1989)

# 3.7 Heritage resources

National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act No. 25 of 1999), as amended

During the course of the development, the developer and contractors must comply with all other relevant legislation (including the bylaws of the local municipality).



# 4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

#### 4.1 Introduction

A Public Participation Process (PPP) is a requirement in terms of the 2010 EIA Regulations of the National Environmental Management Act,1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) as amended. It forms an integral part of any EIA process.

This section provides information pertaining to the PPP that was conducted by Shangoni Management Services during this particular assessment.

The purpose of this process is to gather information from the community and relevant stakeholders that could ultimately affect the decision-making process concerning the planning, construction and operational phases of the proposed expansion of the Fourie's Poultry Roodekraal free-range farm. The community and public have been identified as I&APs and have been given an opportunity to participate in this process. Their comments, whether positive or negative, will influence the decision of the authorities and the developer's final actions.

## 4.2 Objectives of the PPP

The PPP has the following objectives:

- To inform I&APs as well as all stakeholders of the proposed development;
- To provide an opportunity for I&APs and stakeholders to raise environmental issues or concerns and make suggestions;
- To promote transparency and an understanding of the project and its consequences; and
- To serve as a structure for liaison and communication with I&APs and stakeholders.

To summarise, the objective of the on-going PPP is to promote openness and transparency concerning the proposed expansion project for the duration of the project. The process should by no means be regarded as a vehicle to temper opposition or objections. Any conclusions agreed upon must be socially, financially and technically acceptable and feasible in order to meet the requirements of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA), 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998), as amended, and the vision of Fourie's Poultry.

## 4.3 The Guidelines Followed for the PPP

The PPP for this project was conducted by Shangoni Management Services and undertaken strictly according to the guidelines in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA), Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended, Chapter 6:



## **4.4 Public Participation Process**

- 54. (1) this regulation only applies in instances where adherence to the provisions of this regulation is specifically required.
- (2) The person conducting a public participation process must take into account any guidelines applicable to public participation as contemplated in section 24J of the Act and must give notice to all potential interested and affected parties of the application which is subjected to public participation by-
- (a) fixing a notice board at a place conspicuous to the public at the boundary or on the fence of -
  - (i) the site where the activity to which the application relates is or is to be undertaken; and
  - (ii) any alternative site mentioned in the application;
- (b) giving written notice to -
  - (i) the owner or person in control of that land if the applicant is not the owner or person in control of the land;
  - (ii) the occupiers of the site where the activity is or is to be undertaken or to any alternative site where the activity is to be undertaken;
  - (iii) owners and occupiers of land adjacent to the site where the activity is or is to be undertaken or to any alternative site where the activity is to be undertaken;
  - (iv) the municipal councillor of the ward in which the site or alternative site is situated and any organisation of ratepayers that represent the community in the area;
  - (v) the municipality which has jurisdiction in the area;
  - (vi) any organ of state having jurisdiction in respect of any aspect of the activity; and
  - (vii) any other party as required by the competent authority;
- (c) placing an advertisement in -
  - (i) one local newspaper; or
  - (ii) any official *Gazette* that is published specifically for the purpose of providing public notice of applications or other submissions made in terms of these Regulations;
- (d) placing an advertisement in at least one provincial newspaper or national newspaper, if the activity has or may have an impact that extends beyond the boundaries of the metropolitan or local municipality in which it is or will be undertaken: Provided that this paragraph need not be complied with if an advertisement has been placed in an official *Gazette* referred to in sub regulation (c)(ii); and
- (e) using reasonable alternative methods, as agreed to by the competent authority, in those instances where a person is desiring of but unable to participate in the process due to
  - (i) illiteracy;
  - (ii) disability;
  - (iii) or any other disadvantage.
- (3) A notice, notice board or advertisement referred to in sub regulation (2) must
- (a) give details of the application which is subjected to public participation; and



- (b) state-
  - (i) that the application has been submitted to the competent authority in terms of these Regulations, as the case may be;
  - (ii) whether basic assessment or scoping procedures are being applied to the application, in the case of an application for environmental authorisation;
  - (iii) the nature and location of the activity to which the application relates;
  - (iv) where further information on the application or activity can be obtained; and
  - (vi) the manner in which and the person to whom representations in respect of the application may be made.
- (4) A notice board referred to in sub regulation (2) must-
- (a) be of a size at least 60cm by 42cm; and
- (b) display the required information in lettering and in a format as may be determined by the competent authority.
- (5) Where deviation from sub regulation (2) may be appropriate, the person conducting the public participation process may deviate from the requirements of that sub regulation to the extent and in the manner as may be agreed to by the competent authority.
- (6) Where a basic assessment report, scoping report or environmental impact assessment report as contemplated in regulations 22, 28 and 31 respectively is amended because it has been rejected or because of a request for additional information by the competent authority, and such amended report contains new information, the amended basic assessment report, scoping report or environmental impact assessment report must be subjected to the processes contemplated in regulations 21, 27 and 31, as the case may be, on the understanding that the application form need not be resubmitted.
- (7) When complying with this regulation, the person conducting, the public participation process must ensure that-
- (a) information containing all relevant facts in respect of the application is made available to potential interested and affected parties; and
- (b) participation by potential interested and affected parties is facilitated in such a manner that all potential interested and affected parties are provided with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the application.
- (8)Unless justified by exceptional circumstances, as agreed to by the competent authority, the applicant and EAP managing the environmental assessment process must refrain from conducting any public participation process during the period of 15 December to 2 January.

Register of interested and affected parties



- 55.(1) An EAP managing an application must open and maintain a register which contains the names, contact details and addresses of -
- (a) all persons who, as a consequence of the public participation process conducted in respect of that application in terms of regulation 54, have submitted written comments or attended meetings with the applicant or EAP;
- (b) all persons who, after completion of the public participation process referred to in paragraph(a), have requested the applicant or the EAP managing the application, in writing, for their names to be placed on the register; and
- (c) all organs of state which have jurisdiction in respect of the *activity* to which the application relates.
- (2) An EAP managing an application must give access to the register to any person who submits a request for access to the register in writing.

Registered interested and affected parties entitled to comment on submissions

- 56.(1) A registered interested and affected party is entitled to comment, in writing, on all written submissions, including draft reports made to the competent authority by the applicant or the EAP managing an application, and to bring to the attention of the competent authority any issues which that party believes may be of significance to the consideration of the application, provided that-
- (a) comments are submitted within-
  - (i) the timeframes that have been approved or set by the competent authority; or
  - (ii) any extension of a timeframe agreed to by the applicant or EAP;
- (b) a copy of comments submitted directly to the competent authority is served on the EAP; and
- (c) the interested and affected party discloses any direct business, financial, personal or other interest which that party may have in the approval or refusal of the application.
- (2)Before the EAP managing an application for environmental authorisation submits a final report compiled in terms of these Regulations to the competent authority, the EAP must give registered interested and affected parties access to, and an opportunity to comment on the report in writing.
- (3) The report referred to in sub regulation (2) include-
- (a) basic assessment reports;
- (b basic assessment reports amended and resubmitted in terms of regulation 24 (4);
- (c) scoping reports;
- (d) scoping reports amended and resubmitted in terms of regulation 30(3);
- (e) specialist reports and reports on specialised processes compiled in terms of regulation 32;
- (f) environmental impact assessment reports submitted in terms of regulation 31;
- (g) environmental impact assessment reports amended and resubmitted in terms of regulation 34(4); and
- (h) draft environmental management programmes compiled in terms of regulation 33.



- (4) The draft versions of reports referred to in sub regulation (3) must be submitted to the competent authority prior to awarding registered interested and affected parties an opportunity to comment.
- (5) Registered interested and affected parties must submit comments on draft reports contemplated in sub regulation (4) to the EAP, who should record it in accordance with regulations 21, 28 or 31.
- (6) Registered interested and affected parties must submit comments on final reports contemplated in sub regulation (3) to the competent authority and provide a copy of such comments to the applicant or EAP.
- (7) The competent authority must, in order to give effect to section 24O of the Act, on receipt of the draft reports contemplated in sub regulation (5), request any State department that administers a law relating to a matter affecting the environment to comment within 40 days.
- (8) The timeframe of 40 days as contemplated in sub regulation (7) must be read as 60 days in the case of waste management activities as contemplated in the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008), on which the Department of Water Affairs must concur and issue a record of decision in terms of section 49(2) of the National Environmental Management: Waste Management Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008).
- (9)(a)When a State department is requested by the competent authority to comment, such State department must, within 40 days or in the case of Department of Water Affairs, 60 days for waste management activities, of being requested to comment by the competent authority, provide comments to the competent authority.
- (b)If a State department fails to submit comments within 40, or 60 days for waste management activities, from the date on which the Minister, MEC, Minister of Mineral Resources or identified competent authority requests such State department in writing to submit comment, it will be regarded that there are no comments.

Comments of interested and affected parties to be recorded in reports submitted to competent authority

- 57. (1) The EAP managing an application for environmental authorisation must ensure that the comments of interested and affected parties are recorded in reports and that such written comments, including records of meetings, are attached to the report, submitted to the competent authority in terms of these Regulations.
- (2) Where a person is desiring but unable to access written comments as contemplated in sub regulation (1) due to-
- (i) a lack of skills to read or write;



- (ii) disability; or
- (iii) any other disadvantage,

reasonable alternative methods of recording comments must be provided for.

## 4.5 Public Participation Process Followed

The following PPP was conducted for the proposed expansion of the Roodekraal free-range farm:

- Identification of key Interested and Affected Parties (all adjacent landowners);
- Identification of key stakeholders;
- Informing the key stakeholders of the process by means of correspondence;
- Placement of a press notice in the Potchefstroom Herald newspaper, informing the public of the process;
- Placement of notices at the site; and
- Correspondence with I&APs and stakeholders and the addressing of their comments.

#### 4.5.1 Identification & Registration of I&APs on a Database

Through networking and advertising, I&APs were registered on a database. Shangoni ensured that individuals or organisations from an institutional as well as a geographical point of view were identified.

Geographically, Shangoni focused on nearby or adjacent landowners, communities and structures that represent them. Institutionally, the focus was on those organisations or individuals that may influence policies and decisions or make a contribution to the project. Not all of these organisations were necessarily in the direct project sphere of impact.

#### 4.5.2 Notification of key stakeholders and I&AP

Stakeholders are all the relevant authorities and land owners that may possibly be affected by this project. (Refer to Table 6 for stakeholders identified)

Shangoni sent registered letters or emails to the Departments and Organs of State containing a background information document (BID), map showing the location of the site and a stakeholder registration form. Figure 27 provides an example of the letters sent out to Departments, Organs of State and potential I&APs. Figures 28 and 29 provide proof that notification letters were sent to Departments and Organs of State. Proof of emails sent is attached under Appendix E.

Table 7 provides a list of I&APs that registered and were added to the database of I&APs during the PPP.



Table 6: Stakeholders identified during the PPP.

| Contact Person                | Department/ Organisation              | Postal Address     | Contact Details                      |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Mr. Pieter Labuschagne        | Tlokwe City Council                   | PO Box 113         | Tel: 018 299 5253                    |
|                               |                                       | Potchefstroom      | Fax: 018 299 5555                    |
|                               |                                       | 2520               | Email: pieterl@tlokwe.gov.za         |
| Faith Lephale                 | Dr. Kenneth Kaunda District           | Private Bag X5017  | Tel: 018 473 8000                    |
|                               | Municipality                          | Klerksdorp         | Fax: 018 473 2523                    |
|                               |                                       | 2570               |                                      |
| Vutomi Ndlovu                 | Dr. Kenneth Kaunda District           | Private Bag X5017  | Tel: 018 473 8041/16                 |
|                               | Municipality                          | Klerksdorp         | Email: ndlovuv@kaundadistrict.gov.za |
|                               |                                       | 2570               |                                      |
| HOD: Dr Kgabi Mogajan         | North West Department of              | Private Bag X2039  | Tel: 018 389 5111                    |
|                               | Agriculture and Rural Development     | Mmabatho           |                                      |
|                               |                                       | 2735               |                                      |
| HOD: Mr. Makgothi Thobakgale  | North West Department of Public       | Private Bag X2080  | Tel: 018 388 1435                    |
|                               | Works, Roads and Transport            | Mmabatho           |                                      |
|                               |                                       | 2735               |                                      |
| HOD: Mr. Seth Ramagaga        | North West Department of Local        | Private Bag X2099  | Tel: 018 388 2893                    |
|                               | Government and Traditional Affairs    | Mmabatho           |                                      |
|                               |                                       | 2735               |                                      |
| Human Settlements HOD: Mr. MP | North West Department of Human        | Private Bag X 2145 | Tel: 018 39 10412/0406               |
| Motlogelwa                    | Settlement, Public Safety and Liaison | Mmabatho           | Tel: 018 381 9100                    |
|                               |                                       | 2735               |                                      |
| Public Safety HOD: Mr. Baily  |                                       |                    |                                      |
| Mahlakoleng                   |                                       |                    |                                      |



| 1   |  | PO Box 4637  | Tel:021 462 4502   |
|---|--|--|--|
| Mr. Phillip Hine  | South African Heritage Resources   | Cape Town  | Fax: 021 462 4509  |
|   | Agency (SAHRA)   | 8000   | Email:phine@sahra.org.za   |
| Ms Florah Mamabolo  | Department of Water Affairs - Upper  | Private Bag X313   | Tel: (012) 392-1361  |
|   | Vaal WMA   | Pretoria   | Fax: (012) 336 8664  |
|   |  | 0001   | Email: MamaboloF@dwa.gov.za  |
| Mr. Douw Prinsloo   | Adjacent Land Owner  | PO Box 403   |  |
|   |  | Potchefstroom  |  |
|   |  | 2520   |  |
| Mr. Louis Linde   | Adjacent Land Owner  | PO Box 355   | Email: 21248214@nwu.ac.za  |
|   |  | Potchefstroom  |  |
|   |  | 2520   |  |
| Nikky Pienaar   | Adjacent Land Owner  | PO Box 404   | Email: npienaar@adelpragfriesianstud.com   |
|   |  | Potchefstroom  |  |
|   |  | 2520   |  |
| G.P. Schoeman   | Dome Conservancy   | PO Box 20720   | Tel: 018 291 1649  |
|   |  | Noordbrug  | Fax: 086 618 4809  |
|   |  | 2522   |  |
| Adv de Waal Nigrini   | Noordwes Grondeienaarsvereniging   |  | Email: dknigrini@mweb.co.za  |
| Mr. Johan Beytell   | Vrystaat Grondeienaarsvereniging   | PO Box 442   | Email: fh@gds.co.za  |
|   |  | Klerksdorp   |  |
|   |  | 2570   |  |
| Ishmael Maputle, Deputy Director  | Vredefort Dome   |  | Email: mohaumaputle@gmail.com  |
| Motlatsi Maleka   | National Department of Tourism   |  | Tel: 012 310 3893  |
|   |  |  | Email: mmaleka@tourism.gov.za  |
| G.P. Schoeman  Adv de Waal Nigrini  Mr. Johan Beytell  Ishmael Maputle, Deputy Director | Dome Conservancy  Noordwes Grondeienaarsvereniging  Vrystaat Grondeienaarsvereniging  Vredefort Dome | Potchefstroom 2520  PO Box 20720  Noordbrug 2522  PO Box 442  Klerksdorp | Tel: 018 291 1649 Fax: 086 618 4809  Email: dknigrini@mweb.co.za  Email: fh@gds.co.za  Email: mohaumaputle@gmail.com Tel: 012 310 3893 |



| Rinah Jonga                        | National Department of Tourism   |               | Tel: 051 448 7249                |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------|----------------------------------|
|                                    |                                  |               | Email: rjonga@tourism.gov.za     |
| Manager: Tourism & Marketing       | Department Economic Development, | PO Box 113    | Tel: 018 299 5371                |
| Ms. Magda Cilliers                 | Tlokwe City Council              | Potchefstroom | Fax: 018 297 0351                |
|                                    |                                  | 2520          | Email: magdac@tlokwe.gov.za      |
| Mr. Francois de Villiers           | Dome Adventures                  | PO Box 5179   | Tel: 018 291 1055                |
|                                    |                                  | Kockpark      | Cell: 072 185 4900               |
|                                    |                                  | 2532          | Email: info@domeadventures.co.za |
| Gladys Tladi / Nametso Gabanakgosi | North West Parks and Tourism     | PO Box 912    |                                  |
|                                    | Dr Kenneth Kaunda Tourism        | Potchefstroom |                                  |
|                                    | Information & Development Centre | 2520          |                                  |

Table 7: Registered I&APs.

| Interested and Affected Party | Department/ Organisation                        | Postal Address    | Contact Details               |
|-------------------------------|---|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| Ntombi Rikhotso               | Thlokwe City Council – Environmental            | PO Box 113        | Tel: 018 299 5254             |
|                               | Management                                      | Potchefstroom     | Fax: 018 299 5258             |
|                               |   | 2520              | Cell: 073 334 1840            |
|                               |   |                   | Email: ntombir@tlokwe.gov.za  |
| Dr. P.J. Mokaila              | North West Department of Agriculture            | Private Bag X2039 | Tel: 018 389 5723             |
|                               | and Rural Development                           | Mmabatho          | Fax: 018 392 4377             |
|                               |   | 2735              | Cell: 082 528 3440            |
|                               |   |                   | Email: pmokaila@nwpg.gov.za   |
| Bogadi Mogoerane              | Department of Human Settlements,                | Private Bag X19   | Tel: 018 381 9108/52          |
|                               | Public Safety and Liaison                       | Mmabatho          | Fax: 018 381 5671             |
|                               |   | 2735              | Email: bmogoerane@nwpg.gov.za |
|                               | O. H. Missa Haites Base                         | PO Box 4637       | Tel:021 462 4502              |
| Mr. Phillip Hine              | South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) | Cape Town         | Fax: 021 462 4509             |
|                               | , igolie, (e. i. i. i.,                         | 8000              | Email:phine@sahra.org.za      |





Shangani Management Services Pty (Ltd). Reg: 2002/00000807, W.T. 488, 019 horse

Tal (2/10)12/907 /096 Fax (2/10)12/907 10]4 Chrodilint-Schangerilice as yewschangerilice as Block CB BlockFintum 472 Botterdaper Street The Willows 3081 FC Box 7-4781 - yerosod Bloga 0040

7 March 2013

EIA Ref: NWP/EIA/110/2012; SMS Ref: FOU-ROO-12-10-22

Department of Water Affairs – Upper Vaal WMA Private Bag X313 Pretoria 0001

Attention: Ms Florah Mamabolo

# APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION: EXPANSION OF THE ROODEKRAAL FREE-RANGE CHICKEN FARM

Fouries Poultry Farms (Pty) Ltd. (Trading name: Chubby Chick Enterprises) has initiated a Basic Assessment Process to obtain Environmental Authorisation from the North West Department of Economic Development, Environment, Conservation and Tourism (DEDECT) for the proposed expansion of their Roodekraal free-range chicken farm on Portion 2 of the farm Roodekraal 454 IQ.

The proposed expansion of the free-range chicken farm will require environmental authorisation subject to a Basic Assessment Process as required by Sections 21 to 25 of Government Notice R.543 of the EIA Regulations of 18 June 2010.

Shangoni Management Services (Pty) Ltd. was appointed as the Independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) responsible for the Basic Assessment Process.

Attached please find a background information document, map of the site and a stakeholder registration form in respect of the application. Should you wish to register as an I&AP and/or inform us of any other I&APs and/or organisation and/or organ of state who should be notified, please contact <u>Lizette Crous</u> before the expiry date on 16 April 2013.

Please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned should you require any additional information.

Contact Details: Shangoni Management Services

Miss Lizette Crous: E-mail: lizette@shangoni.co.za; Cell: 071 673 3355; Fax 2 E-mail: 086 643 5360; Fax: 012 807 1014.

Regards

Lizette Crous

Environmental Assessment Practitioner

Directors BB Hayes, J Nel JA von Booy, GJ Potgleder, HII die VIII ers

Figure 26: Example of the notification letters sent



| X          | Full tracking and tracing/Volledige   | volg e               | n spec                | r                           |             |  |
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Figure 27: Proof of postage of notification letters (page 1)

|            | Full tracking and tracing/Volledige  | e volg e                        | en spoo                      | or            |             |  |
|------------|--|---------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------|-------------|--|
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| 3          | Po box 365 Morresinam 2620<br>Mr Louis Linde   |                                 |                              |               |             | REGISTER LETTER RD-17950THF PARSE REGISTER CLETTER REGISTER CLETTER REGISTER CLETTER RTT-120107 2X***  |
| 4 5        | Po Box 403 Polatopolicent 2550  My Down Principo  Department of 1000 Aprilia - Upon Unit Hillia  Middle Beg XXIX Petrici Oxia  Me Florida Manazola   |                                 |                              |               |             | CISTOMER OFFY SHARE AND ASSAULT BUTTON BEING THE BUTTON BOTTOM BUTTON BU |
| 6          | Mich Remark Memorola  Not Occamer of Ame of God Godgerer  House Con Vivilla Americano 1935  House Or Occamer   |                                 |                              |               |             | RFORTERED LETTER RD 763 328 119 ZA GISHONER CORP. SHOWER   |
| 7          | Con Day of House interpretation with and form  |                                 |                              |               |             | REASTERED LETTER AND SAN THE S |
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| 9          |  |                                 |                              |               |             |  |
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| lar        | inditated on accoupling officers inditated on accompany of the contents of the contents of these latters is as indicated and compensation is initially. Compensation is finited to R100,00, No compensation is   | in is not pay                   | one for a lett               | ler repelved  |             | Con War  |

Figure 28: Proof of postage of notification letters (page 2).



## 4.5.3 Comments obtained during the public participation phase

Table 8: Comments received.

| RAISED BY   | DATE     | ISSUE / COMMENT / CONCERN   |
|-------------|----------|---|
| Bogadi      | 20 March | APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION: EXPANSION OF SUNVALLEY BROILER FACILITIES AND                                    |
| Mogoerane   | 2013     | ROODEKRAAL FREE RANGE CHICKEN FARM  |
|             |          | The attached documents were erroneously forwarded to our Department. Please be advised that our Department is                 |
|             |          | responsible for Road Traffic Management, Road Safety, SAPS and Crime Prevention.  |
|             |          | Please forward them to the correct department.  |
| Mr. Phillip | 22 March | EXPANSION OF THE ROODEKRAAL FREE-RANGE CHICKEN FARM   |
| Hine        | 2013     |   |
|             |          | Thank you for your indication that development is planned to take place in this area.   |
|             |          | In terms of the National Heritage Resources Act, no 25 of 1999, heritage resources, including archaeological or               |
|             |          | palaeontological sites over 100 years old, graves older than 60 years, structures older than 60 years are protected. They may |
|             |          | not be disturbed without a permit from the relevant heritage resources authority. This means that before such sites are       |
|             |          | disturbed by development it is incumbent on the developer to ensure that a Heritage Impact Assessment is done. This must      |
|             |          | include the archaeological component (Phase 1) and any other applicable heritage components. Appropriate (Phase 2)            |
|             |          | mitigation, which involves recording, sampling and dating sites that are to be destroyed, must be done as required.           |
|             |          | The quickest process to follow for the archaeological component is to contract a specialist (see www.asapa.org.za) to provide |
|             |          | a Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment Report. This must be done before any large development takes place.                |
|             |          | The Phase 1 Impact Assessment Report will identify the archaeological sites and assess their significance. It should also     |



make recommendations (as indicated in section 38) about the process to be followed. For example, there may need to be a mitigation phase (Phase 2) where the specialist will collect or excavate material and date the site. At the end of the process the heritage authority may give permission for destruction of the sites.

If the property is very small or disturbed and there is no significant site the heritage specialist may choose to send a letter to the heritage authority to indicate that there is no necessity for any further assessment.

An assessment of palaeontological resources will not be required for this particular project.

Any other heritage resources that may be impacted such as built structures over 60 years old, sites of cultural significance associated with oral histories, burial grounds and graves, graves of victims of conflict, and cultural landscapes or viewscapes must also be assessed.

Should you have any further queries, please contact the designated official using the case number quoted above in the case header.

## 4.5.4 EAP's responses to comments received

Table 9: EAP's responses.

| RAISED BY | DATE     | RESPONSE  |
|-----------|----------|---|
| Bogadi    | 20 March | ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT: COMMENTS ON THE APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION:  |
| Mogoerane | 2013     | EXPANSION OF THE ROODEKRAAL FREE-RANGE CHICKEN FARM   |
|           |          |   |
|           |          | Dear Bogadi,  |
|           |          |   |
|           |          | Your letter dated 20 January 2013 and received by us on the 20 <sup>th</sup> of March 2013 refers: We hereby acknowledge receipt of |



|             |          | your letter and comments contained therein.  |
|-------------|----------|--|
|             |          | The Notification of Application for Environmental Authorisation documents were sent to the North West Department of Human Settlement, Public Safety and Liaison, Public Safety and Liaison Branch, so that the Department could register as an Interested and Affected Party should the Department feel that it has an interest in the proposed project. |
|             |          | Your comments will be included in the Basic Assessment Reports for the above mentioned project.  |
|             |          | We thank you for your inputs.  |
| Mr. Phillip | 22 March | I hereby acknowledge receipt of SAHRA's comments on the proposed Expansion of the Roodekraal free-range chicken farm   |
| Hine        | 2013     | project (EIA Ref Nr: NWP/EIA/110/2012). The comments will be included and addressed in the Basic Assessment Reports for this project.  |

## 4.5.5 Comments and Responses Report

Comments and concerns received from I&APs were incorporated into a Comments and Responses Report, given in the table below and under Appendix E.

Table 10: Comments and responses report.

| RAISED BY | DATE  | ISSUE / COMMENT / CONCERN                                | RESPONSE                                       |
|-----------|-------|--|--|
| Bogadi    | 20    | APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION:             | ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT: COMMENTS ON THE    |
| Mogoerane | March | EXPANSION OF SUNVALLEY BROILER FACILITIES AND            | APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION:   |
|           | 2013  | ROODEKRAAL FREE RANGE CHICKEN FARM                       | EXPANSION OF THE ROODEKRAAL FREE-RANGE CHICKEN |
|           |       |  | FARM   |
|           |       | The attached documents were erroneously forwarded to our |  |
|           |       | Department. Please be advised that our Department is     | Dear Bogadi,                                   |



| of March 2013 refers: We hereby acknowledge receipt of letter and comments contained therein.  The Notification of Application for Environmental Authori documents were sent to the North West Department of P Settlement, Public Safety and Liaison, Public Safety and  |             |       | responsible for Road Traffic Management, Road Safety, SAPS        |  |
|--|-------------|-------|---|--|
| Please forward them to the correct department.  Ietter and comments contained therein.  The Notification of Application for Environmental Authori documents were sent to the North West Department of F Settlement, Public Safety and Liaison, Public Safety and Liaison |             |       | and Crime Prevention.   | Your letter dated 20 January 2013 and received by us on the 20 <sup>th</sup> |
| The Notification of Application for Environmental Authori documents were sent to the North West Department of F Settlement, Public Safety and Liaison, Publi |             |       |   | of March 2013 refers: We hereby acknowledge receipt of your                  |
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| In terms of the National Haritage Resources Act, no 25 of 1000   |             |       |   |  |
| in terms of the National Heritage Resources Act, no 25 of 1999,  |             |       | In terms of the National Heritage Resources Act, no 25 of 1999,   |  |
| heritage resources, including archaeological or palaeontological   |             |       | heritage resources, including archaeological or palaeontological  |  |
| sites over 100 years old, graves older than 60 years, structures   |             |       | sites over 100 years old, graves older than 60 years, structures  |  |
| older than 60 years are protected. They may not be disturbed   |             |       | older than 60 years are protected. They may not be disturbed      |  |

without a permit from the relevant heritage resources authority. This means that before such sites are disturbed by development it is incumbent on the developer to ensure that a **Heritage Impact Assessment** is done. This must include the archaeological component (Phase 1) and any other applicable heritage components. Appropriate (Phase 2) mitigation, which involves recording, sampling and dating sites that are to be destroyed, must be done as required.

The quickest process to follow for the archaeological component is to contract a specialist (see www.asapa.org.za) to provide a Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment Report. This must be done before any large development takes place.

The Phase 1 Impact Assessment Report will identify the archaeological sites and assess their significance. It should also make recommendations (as indicated in section 38) about the process to be followed. For example, there may need to be a mitigation phase (Phase 2) where the specialist will collect or excavate material and date the site. At the end of the process the heritage authority may give permission for destruction of the sites.

If the property is very small or disturbed and there is no significant site the heritage specialist may choose to send a letter to the heritage authority to indicate that there is no

## necessity for any further assessment.

An assessment of palaeontological resources will not be required for this particular project.

Any other heritage resources that may be impacted such as built structures over 60 years old, sites of cultural significance associated with oral histories, burial grounds and graves, graves of victims of conflict, and cultural landscapes or viewscapes must also be assessed.

Should you have any further queries, please contact the designated official using the case number quoted above in the case header.

## 4.5.6 Registering Stakeholders

All key stakeholders were registered and will receive this draft Basic Assessment Report for comment.

## 4.5.7 Press Notices

In accordance with the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) 1998, (Act No. 107 of 1998), as amended, a notice was placed in the Potchefstroom Herald newspaper on the 1<sup>st</sup> of March 2013. The press notice is shown below (Refer to Figure 30).

Press notices are crucial to create awareness of the project and to reach a broader range of I&APs.

#### 4.5.8 Placement of Public Notices

Notices (A2) were placed on the perimeter fence of the site as well as at the access road to the site (Refer to Figure 31 and Figure 32). Wording for the site notices is given in Figure 33.

## 4.5.9 Minutes of public meetings

No public meetings were held during the Public Participation Phase.

## 4.5.10 Issuing I&APs and Stakeholders with the Draft Basic Assessment Report

This draft Basic Assessment Report will be sent to all Departments and Organs of State as well as all registered I&APs in order to obtain their comments. The report will also be submitted to the North-West Department of Economic Development, Environment, Conservation and Tourism for review.

## 4.5.11 Conclusions of the Public Participation Exercise

In conclusion, the public participation exercise has provided adequate information to enable an understanding of what the proposed project would entail and also to address the concerns and comments of this Environmental Assessment.



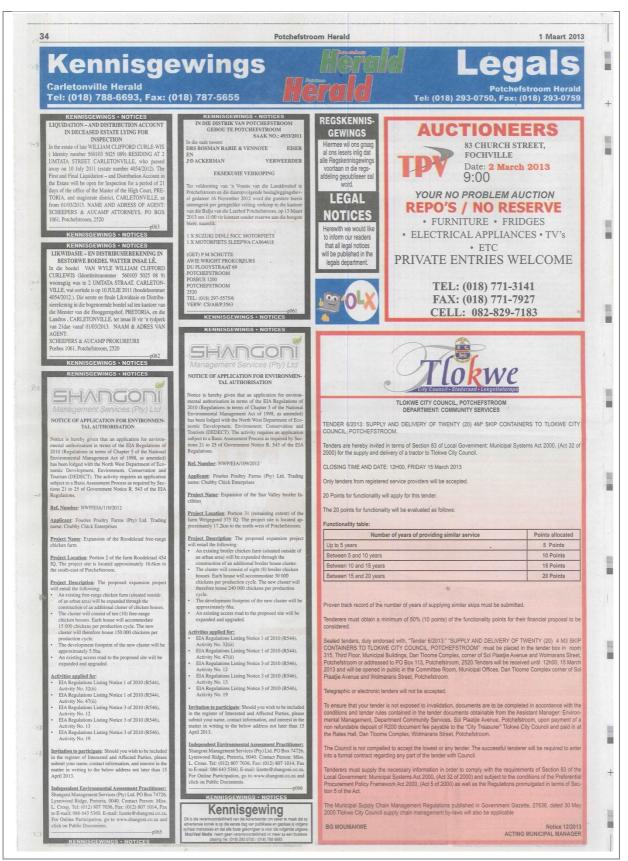


Figure 29: Newspaper advertisement.





Figure 30: Notice 1



Figure 31: Notice 2



# FOURIES POULTRY FARMS (PTY) LTD NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION

Notice is hereby given that an application for environmental authorisation in terms of the EIA Regulations of 2010 (Regulations in terms of Chapter 5 of the National Environmental Management Act of 1998, as amended) has been lodged with the North West Department of Economic Development, Environment, Conservation and Tourism (DEDECT).

#### Legislation:

The activity requires an application subject to a Basic Assessment Process as required by Sections 21 to 25 of Government Notice R. 543 of the EIA Regulations.

#### Activities applied for:

- EIA Regulations Listing Notice 1 of 18 June 2010 (R544), Activity No. 32(ii)
- EIA Regulations Listing Notice 1 of 18 June 2010 (R544), Activity No. 47(ii)
- EIA Regulations Listing Notice 3 of 18 June 2010 (R546), Activity No. 12
- EIA Regulations Listing Notice 3 of 18 June 2010 (R546), Activity No. 13
- EIA Regulations Listing Notice 3 of 18 June 2010 (R546), Activity No. 19

#### Activity Description: The proposed expansion project will entail the following:

- An existing free-range chicken farm (situated outside of an urban area) will be expanded through the construction of an
  additional cluster of chicken houses.
- The cluster will consist of ten (10) free-range chicken houses. Each house will accommodate 15 000 chickens per production cycle. The new cluster will therefore house 150 000 chickens per production cycle.
- The development footprint of the new cluster will be approximately 5.5ha.
- An existing access road to the proposed site will be expanded and upgraded.

Applicant: Fouries Poultry Farms (Pty) Ltd. Trading name: Chubby Chick Enterprises

Project Name: Expansion of the Roodekraal free-range chicken farm

Location: Portion 2 of the farm Roodekraal 454 IQ. The project site is located approximately 16.6km to the south-east of

Reference number: NWP/EIA/110/2012

#### Environmental Consultants

Shangoni Management Services (Pty) Ltd

PO Box 74726 Tel: (012) 807 7036

 Lynnwood Ridge
 Fax: (012) 807 1014 / 086 643 5360

 Pretoria
 Mobile: +27 71 673 3355

 0040
 E-mail: lizette@shangoni.co.za

#### Invitation to Participate:

Should you wish to be included in the register of Interested and Affected Parties, please submit your name, contact information, and interest in the matter in writing to the below address not later than 15 April 2013.

#### FOURIES POULTRY FARMS (PTY) LTD

#### PUBLIEKE KENNISGEWING TER AANSOEK VIR OMGEWINGSMAGTIGING

Kennis word hiermee gegee dat 'n aansoek om omgewingsmagtiging in terme van die Omgewingsimpakstudie Regulasies van 18 Junie 2010, in terme van Hoofstuk 5 van die Nasionale Omgewingsbestuur Wet van 1998, soos gewysig, ingedien is by die Noordwes Departement van Ekonomiese Ontwikkeling, Omgewing, Bewaring en Toerisme (DEDECT).

#### Wetgewing:

Die aktiwiteite vereis dat 'n Basiese Omgewingsimpakstudie Proses gevolg word soos vereis deur Artikel 21 tot 25 van Staats Kennisgewing R: 543 van die Omgewingsimpakstudie regulasies.

#### Aktiwiteite waarvoor aansoek gedoen is:

- Kennisgewingsnommer 1 van 18 Junie 2010 (R544), Aktiwiteit Nr. 32 (ii)
- Kennisgewingsnommer 1 van 18 Junie 2010 (R544), Aktiwiteit Nr. 47 (ii)
- Kennisgewingsnommer 3 van 18 Junie 2010 (R546), Aktiwiteit Nr. 12
- Kennisgewingsnommer 3 van 18 Junie 2010 (R546), Aktiwiteit Nr. 13
- Kennisgewingsnommer 3 van 18 Junie 2010 (R546). Aktiwiteit Nr. 19

#### Beskrywing van aktiwiteit: Die voorgestelde uitbreiding projek sal die volgende behels:

- 'n Bestaande vryloop hoender plaas (geleë buite 'n stedelike gebied) sal uitgebrei word deur die oprigting van 'n addisionele sel van vryloop hoender huise.
- Die sel sal uit tien (10) vryloop hoender huise bestaan. Elke huis sal 15 000 hoenders kan huisves per produksie-siklus. Die nuwe sel sal dus 150 000 hoenders huisves per produksie-siklus.
- Die ontwikkelingsgebied van die nuwe sel sal ongeveer 5.5 ha wees.
- 'n Bestaande toegangspad na die voorgestelde perseel sal uitgebrei en opgegradeer word.

Applikant: Fouries Poultry Farms (Pty) Ltd. Handelsnaam: Chubby Chick Enterprises

Projek naam: Uitbreiding van die Roodekraal vryloop hoender plaas.

Ligging: Gedeelte 2 van die plaas Roodekraal 454 IQ. Die projek terrein is ongeveer 16.6km suid-oos van Potchefstroom geleë.

Verwysingsnommer: NWP/EIA/110/2012

#### Omgewingskonsultante:

Shangoni Management Services (Pty) Ltd

PO Box 74726 Tel: (012) 807 7036

Lynnwood Ridge Faks: (012) 807 1014 / 086 643 5360

#### Publieke Deelmane Uitnodiging:

Vir enige navrae, of indien u as belanghebbende en/of geaffekteerde party wil registreer of ons wil inlig van enige ander partye en/of organisasie en/of staatsinstelling wat in kennis gestel moet word, kan u gerus vir Lizette Crous kontak by die bogenoemde kontakbesonderhede, nie later as 15 April 2013 nie.

Figure 32: Wording of the site notice

## 5. NEED AND DESIRABILITY FOR THE ACTIVITY

A need and desirability for this project is evident from the following perspectives:

While the concept of need and desirability relates to the type of development being proposed, the concept can be explained in terms of the general meaning of its two components: where need refers to time and desirability refers to place, i.e. is this the right time and is it the right place for the type of land-use or activity that is being proposed? Need and desirability can be equated to wise use of the land, in other words, what is the most sustainable use of the land (DEA&DP, 2010)?

# 5.1 Developer

Current demand for chicken in South Africa is not being met. Fourie's Poultry plans to expand their Roodekraal free-range chicken farm to meet current and future demands. The expansion will allow Fourie's Poultry to earn more money through the sale of more chickens.

The proposed project will entail the construction of an additional free-range chicken house cluster. This cluster will consist of ten houses. The ten houses will be identical to those at the existing free-range clusters. The technology, design and process of the project were determined by the applicant to be the most economically, socially and environmentally sustainable option for this specific venture.

The Roodekraal free-range chicken farm lies within an area designated as cultivated land, unimproved grassland, thicket and bushland according to the Spatial Development Framework (Figure 22). The land use (rearing of free-range chickens) is therefore considered to be in compliance with the SDF.

# **5.2 Local Community**

The proposed project will create five permanent employment opportunities during the operational phase of the project. The creation of jobs will have a positive impact on the local community.

#### 5.3 District and Provincial Benefit

A considerable amount of contract work is associated with the construction and operation of a freerange facility, thereby creating secondary employment in the broader local economy. Contract work can include:

- Construction companies;
- Delivery of chicks to the farm;
- Free-range house bedding;
- · Chicken feed companies; and
- Manure and mortality collection.



The proposed expansion will also increase the food security of South Africa.

## 6. IDENTIFIED ALTERNATIVES

The following definition of "alternatives" is given in the EIA Regulations of 18 June 2010: "alternatives", in relation to the proposed activity, means different means of meeting the general purpose and requirements of the activity, which may include alternatives to-

- a) the property on which or location where it is proposed to undertake the activity;
- b) the type of activity to be undertaken;
- c) the design or layout of the activity;
- d) the technology to be used in the activity;
- e) the operational aspects of the activity; and
- f) the option of not implementing the activity".

Typically, alternative assessments are conducted to assist in comparing various projects or attributes of projects that will occur. The most critical comparison is evaluating any proposed project against the No-Go option. The alternatives assessment then considers alternatives to project site selection for the proposed development; alternatives to layout of the development; and alternatives to construction methodologies and/or materials used for the development.

The alternatives assessment was conducted using a simple cost-benefit analysis of each proposed alternative, through assessing various environmental attributes. These attributes can include physical (geology and soils, surface water quality and quantity, groundwater quality and quantity); biophysical (flora and fauna, sensitive environments); and social (site of archaeological or cultural importance, land use issues, social health and welfare).

The impact of the each alternative was then evaluated in terms of whether it has a positive impact, negative impact, or no impact. In this instance, the impact is not evaluated in terms of significance but rather whether or not it will arise. Positive impacts are assigned a value of 1; no impact a value of 0; and a negative impact a value of -1.

By adding all of the attribute scores for each alternative, a suitability score is derived that indicates the preferred alternative. A total positive score indicates the project benefits outweigh the potential negative impacts, while a total negative score indicates the project environmental costs outweigh the potential benefits. Essentially, the highest scoring alternative is then carried forward for full impact evaluation.



## 6.1 No-Go Option

The potential impact of the preferred project option on environmental and socio-economic attributes – identified during the assessment phase – is evaluated against the potential impact of the no-go option on the same attributes. The summary of this assessment is provided in the table below.

Table 11: Development vs. No-Go Option.

| Attribute                     | Development Option | No-go Option 2 |  |  |  |  |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|----------------|--|--|--|--|
| Physical environment          |                    |                |  |  |  |  |
| Air Pollution                 | -1                 | -1             |  |  |  |  |
| Noise Pollution               | -1                 | -1             |  |  |  |  |
| Water Quality                 | -1                 | -1             |  |  |  |  |
| Water Quantity                | -1                 | -1             |  |  |  |  |
| Visual Aesthetics             | 0                  | 0              |  |  |  |  |
| Biophysical environment       |                    |                |  |  |  |  |
| Fauna and Flora               | -1                 | 0              |  |  |  |  |
| Sensitive Environments        | 0                  | 0              |  |  |  |  |
| Social environment            |                    |                |  |  |  |  |
| Traffic                       | -1                 | -1             |  |  |  |  |
| Impact on property values     | 1                  | 0              |  |  |  |  |
| Safety and security           | 0                  | 0              |  |  |  |  |
| National and regional economy | 1                  | 0              |  |  |  |  |
| Infrastructure development    | 1                  | 0              |  |  |  |  |
| Total                         | -3                 | -5             |  |  |  |  |

The no-go alternative means that the free-range chicken farm will not be expanded and will not benefit from a higher overall production rate and stimulation of the local and regional economy. Food security of the country will also not be strengthened. The negative impacts indicated for the no-go alternative are as a result of the existing free-range farm activities occurring on the property.

The negative environmental impacts expected from the proposed development can be mitigated to acceptable limits. The positive social impacts outweigh the negative environmental impacts and the consideration of the "no-go" option can be justifiably dismissed as a sustainable alternative.

#### 6.2 Alternatives

## 6.2.1 Activity Alternatives

The proposed activity is the raising of free-range chickens, by Fourie's Poultry, for provision to their abattoirs and for eventual sale to the public or supermarkets. An alternative would be to supply



contracts to independent chicken farmers who would then sell the fully grown free-range chickens to Fourie's Poultry for slaughtering. This would be a viable option, but it makes more financial sense for Fourie's Poultry to raise their own chickens, as a percentage of the profits would need to be paid to the independent farmer should he/she raise the chickens on behalf of Fourie's Poultry. Raising their own chickens also allows Fourie's Poultry to have complete control over the farming methods used. It will provide assurance that certain standards are met, such as the standards required by the supermarket chains to which they supply chicken.

#### 6.2.2 Location Alternatives

The following location alternatives have been identified and considered:

- A new, undeveloped property.
- Alternative location 1, 2 and 3, on Portion 2 (remaining extent) of the farm Roodekraal 454 IQ.

#### New, undeveloped property

It would not be financially feasible for Fourie's Poultry to purchase a new property as they would then need to develop an entirely new site from scratch. As they already own a farm (the farm Roodekraal) where they are raising free-range chickens, certain infrastructures, such as dirt roads, are already present and existing arrangements, such as the removal of litter and mortalities, are in place. Adding another free-range cluster at this farm would therefore make logistical and financial sense and the purchasing of a new property is therefore eliminated as a viable alternative.

#### **Alternative location 1**

Alternative location one is not a viable option as the landscape forms a hill and roads and power lines run through the area (Refer to Figure 34).

#### **Alternative location 2**

Alternative location two is not a viable option as the area is located within 800m of one of the existing clusters, thus creating a high bio-security risk. This high risk stems from the increased likelihood that poultry diseases may spread between the clusters on the farm, should chickens at one cluster become infected. The potential to impact on a watercourse exists as the Rooikraalspruit runs through this area (Refer to Figure 34).

#### **Alternative location 3**

Alternative location two is not a viable option as the area is located within 800m of one of the existing clusters, thus creating a high bio-security risk. This high risk stems from the increased likelihood that poultry diseases may spread between the clusters on the farm, should chickens at one cluster become infected. The potential to impact on a watercourse exists as a drainage line also passes through the area (Refer to Figure 34).



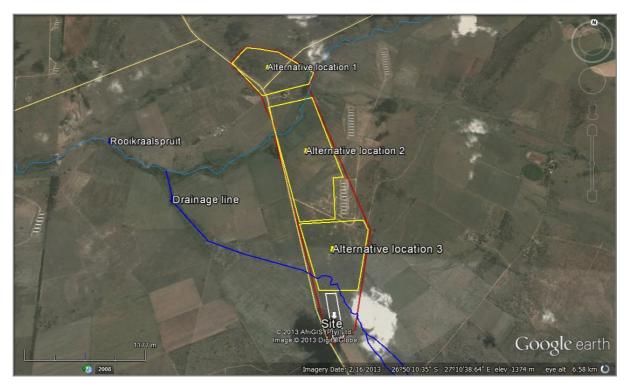


Figure 33: Aerial layout of Alternative Site locations (Google Earth).

#### 6.2.3 Site Alternatives

Only one site on Portion 2 (remaining extent) of the farm Roodekraal 454 IQ was identified as a viable option for the development of the proposed free-range chicken cluster. This site was chosen on the bases that it is in close proximity to an existing dirt road, located more than 800m away from the existing free-range chicken clusters and does not run though a drainage line.

#### 6.2.4 Input Alternatives

No input alternatives could be considered as chicks are the main input into the free-range raising "system".

#### 6.2.5 Design Alternatives

No design alternatives have been considered as the design of the current free-range clusters will be replicated at the proposed, fourth cluster. The designs have been proven over a number of years to be optimal for the raising of free-range chickens.

#### 6.2.6 Scheduling Alternatives

The variability of rainfall as well as the high intensity events will affect the construction phase of the project. It could hinder construction activities with potential soaking of cement mixtures or foundation concrete during the early phases of the construction process. Construction should preferably be



planned for the winter months to avoid construction delays that might have a negative socio-economic impact on the development.

It is recommended that construction take place during the drier months to avoid any complications in wet weather. No detailed information regarding the proposed timeframe for the project is available, but it is assumed that construction will start after the Environmental Authorisation has been received, should the authorisation be a positive one.



# 7. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS

## 7.1 Introduction and approach followed

The proposed expansion of the Roodekraal free-range chicken farm can have a variety of impacts. These can occur over different spatial and temporal scales. The nature of each impact can also vary widely depending on the physical environment and the perceptions and values of the affected parties. In general, the environmental impacts associated with the proposed development will tend to decrease with increasing distance from the activity. The most noticeable impacts are therefore present on the site of operation or on adjacent properties. An assessment of the potential impacts on the social and natural environment should be conducted in a methodical manner.

Assessment and evaluation of environmental impacts is often complicated by the subjective nature of the impacts. Ideally, the degree of severity or significance of a particular impact should be expressed in quantitative terms. There must also be some expression as to whether a particular impact is desirable or not. As the desirability of an impact will depend largely on the attitude and experience of the assessment practitioner, subjectivity is unavoidable. To address these problems, a standard set of definitions were used for the entire impact assessment process.

It is believed that the approach followed will adequately fulfill the environmental authorities' requirements, the requirements of the EIA Regulations (2010) and the objectives of the environmental best practice, so as to ensure transparency and to enable an informed decision regarding the proposed project.

All activities related to the proposed expansion of the free-range chicken farm that could have an impact on the environment were identified. These impacts can be of an environmental, socioeconomic or cultural nature. Impacts are often not only confined within the direct scope of the proposed activity and can accumulate as a network of indirect impacts on the surrounding area.

Different impacts are associated with the different phases of the proposed activity. The significance will be determined by both the extent and duration of the impact. The environmental risk of any aspect is determined by a combination of parameters associated with the impact. Each parameter connects the physical characteristics of an impact to a quantifiable value to rate the environmental risk. A description of the parameters used in this impact assessment is given in the table below.



Table 12: Environmental impact assessment parameters.

| Parameters                                     | Description  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
| Extent   | Refers to the physical or geographical size that is affected by the impact. It can be categorised into the following ranges:  Onsite – Within specific site boundary (weight value – 1)  Local – Within municipal boundary (weight value – 2)  Regional – Outside municipal boundary (weight value – 3)  |  |  |
| Duration                                       | Time span associated with impact:  Short term – 1 Year or less (weight value – 1)  Medium term – 1-5 Years (weight value –2)  Long term – Longer than 5 Years (weight value – 3)   |  |  |
| Intensity and reversibility                    | The severity of an impact on the receiving environment:  Low – Natural and/or cultural processes continue in a modified way and is reversible (weight value – 1)  Medium – Natural and/or cultural processes stop and is partially reversible (weight value – 2)  High – Natural and/or cultural processes disturbed to an irreversible state (weight value – 3) |  |  |
| Significance of Impact / Consequence           | Adding the extent, duration and intensity together provides the significance of the impact (High, Medium or Low).  Extent + Duration + Intensity = High/Medium/Low Impact  |  |  |
| Probability                                    | The likelihood of an impact occurring:  Unlikely – 0% - 45% chance of the potential impact occurring (weight value – 1)  Possible – 46% - 75% chance of the potential impact occurring (weight value – 2)  Likely - >75% chance of the potential impact occurring (weight value – 3)   |  |  |
| Environmental Risk<br>Refer to the table below | Multiplication of the significance of the impact by the probability of the impact occurring produces a final conclusion of the overall risk that an impact poses to the surrounding environment.  High/Medium/Low Impact X Probability = High/Medium/Low Environmental Risk  |  |  |



Table 13: Environmental Risk Matrix.

| Significance of Impact |                             |  |                                   |                 |  |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|-----------------|--|
|                        |                             | Low Impact (3 → 5)   | Medium Impact $(6 \rightarrow 8)$ | High Impact (9) |  |
| Probability            | Definite / Very Likely<br>3 | 9 - 15<br>L - M  | 18 - 24<br>M - H                  | 27<br>H         |  |
|                        | Possible<br>2               | 6 - 10<br>L - M  | 12 – 16<br>M                      | 18<br>M - H     |  |
|                        | Unlikely<br>1               | 3 - 5<br>L   | 6 – 8<br>L                        | 9<br>L          |  |
| ENVIRONMENTAL RISK     |                             | Guidelines for Control Strategies  |                                   |                 |  |
| (H) - High             |                             | Proactively reduce risk level, short term response.  |                                   |                 |  |
| (M- H) Medium to High  |                             | Proactively reduce risk level, short term response.  |                                   |                 |  |
| (M) – Medium           |                             | Management strategies to reduce risk level, short to medium term response.                                       |                                   |                 |  |
| (L – M) L              | ow to Medium                | Management strategies to reduce risk level, short to medium term response, operational control and housekeeping. |                                   |                 |  |
| (L) - Low              |                             | Operational control and housekeeping.  |                                   |                 |  |

See the tables below for a summary of impacts, their associative mitigating actions and the significance of the pre- and post- mitigation of each of the identified activities, for both site alternatives. The tables also provide an environmental risk assessment of pre- and post- mitigation of identified activities. The tables are for the design-, construction-, operational-, rehabilitation- and decommissioning- phases of the proposed project.



# 7.2 Planning and Design Phase

Table 14: Environmental risk assessment: Design and planning

Activity: Design and planning of the free-range chicken cluster.

Aspect: Inadequate planning that results in threats to the health of free-range chickens due to for example, pests or inadequate ventilation.

Nature of Environmental Impact: Chicken mortalities.

health and therefore optimal growth of free-range chickens

| Nature of Environmental impact. Officient mortalities.                               |    |
|--|----|
| Before Mitigation  |    |
| Extent of the Impact   | 2  |
| Duration of the Impact   | 1  |
| Intensity of the Impact  | 3  |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact | 6  |
| Probability  | 2  |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                            | 12 |
| Objective of Mitigation Measures   |    |

To ensure that each free-range chicken house is constructed in a manner that will promote optimal

- A bio-security buffer should be present between the proposed free-range chicken cluster and other free-range chicken clusters in the area (on the farm). This buffer should be at least 800m.
- Prevailing wind directions must be taken into consideration to promote natural ventilation of the free-range chicken houses.
- To ensure that houses receive as much incoming solar radiation during cold winter months, the
  houses should be placed in such a way that the movement of the sun is parallel to the long
  sides of the free-range chicken houses. This will minimise the amount of energy required to
  heat the free-range chicken houses during cold months.
- Concrete floors must be used to allow effective washing and disinfection at the end of each production cycle.
- Effective insulation must be installed in each free-range chicken house to promote costeffective temperature control. The insulation must be able to withstand washing by highpressure hoses.
- The free-range chicken houses should be designed to provide adequate ventilation during the entire production cycle. An air exchange rate of 3.6 to 4m³ per kilogram live mass per hour should be sufficient. This exchange rate should also be adequate to keep ammonia build up within the free-range chicken houses below 20ppm.
- Cooling should be achieved by using fans to draw cool air through the house. Fans from one
  free-range chicken house should not blow directly into the fans of adjacent houses. A backup
  source of electricity must be present to prevent heat stress and likely death of the chickens
  during a power failure.
- Energy saving lights, such as LEDs (light-emitting diodes) should be considered.
- In the case of groundwater, it should be ensured that an adequate supply of groundwater is available to service the proposed free-range chicken cluster. This supply must be sustainable.
- The groundwater must also be analysed to ensure that it is of adequate quality for consumption by chickens. The following guideline document can be consulted: Department of Water Affairs and Forestry, 1996: South African Water Quality Guidelines (2nd Edition). Volume 5: Agricultural Water Use: Livestock Watering.
- A constant water supply must be provided to the free-range chicken houses. This includes the erection of water storage tanks and automated water dispensing systems. Use suspended drinker lines with special nipple attachments. These systems prevent water spillage, resulting in less wet litter. The height of the drinking lines will be adjusted as the chickens grow older.



- Each free-range chicken house must be equipped with a designated bulk silo for storage of feed. The silos must be rat and mouse proof.
- Feed silos, water tanks and conveying equipment must be cleaned and maintained to prevent accumulation and development of mold and pathogens.
- All openings, such as fans, must be closed with a mesh to prevent the entry of rodents and birds that may carry diseases.
- Fly traps must be installed in and around the free-range chicken houses. The traps must be serviced on a monthly basis.
- A programme for litter beetles as well as all other flying and crawling insects must be put in place.
- Foot baths containing disinfectant should be placed at the entrance to each free-range chicken house. This prevents the entry of infected material into the houses.
- An enclosed, lockable storage facility for mortalities must be erected away from the free-range chicken houses.
- A perimeter fence should be erected to keep out larger predators, such as jackals, and also to prevent theft of chickens. The fence should have one access point where people entering the premises can change into clean clothing (overalls and gum boots) and where the tires, mudguards and undercarriage of vehicles entering the site can be sprayed with disinfectants.
- The residence of the farm manager should be in close proximity to the free-range chicken cluster to ensure that the free-range chickens are continuously monitored.
- Warning alarms should be installed for inadequate ventilation and power failure. The alarms must operate independent of the main power supply.

| After Mitigation   |   |
|--|---|
| Extent of the Impact   | 2 |
| Duration of the Impact   | 1 |
| Intensity of the Impact  | 3 |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact | 6 |
| Probability  | 1 |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                            | 6 |

Table 15: Environmental risk assessment: Stormwater management

| Activity: Stormwater.  |    |
|--|----|
| Aspect: Poor design of stormwater control system.                                    |    |
| Nature of Environmental Impact: Soil and surface water pollution.                    |    |
| Before Mitigation  |    |
| Extent of the Impact   | 2  |
| Duration of the Impact   | 2  |
| Intensity of the Impact  | 2  |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact | 6  |
| Probability  | 2  |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                            | 12 |
| Objective of Mitigation Measures   |    |
| To ensure that an effective stormwater control system is put in place.               |    |
| Proposed Mitigation  |    |

- The inflow of clean stormwater into "dirty" areas, and its subsequent contamination, must be prevented.
- Surface run-off must be managed to ensure the prevention of soil erosion.
- Ponding of surface water and the creation of gully erosion must be prevented.
- Wash water trenches that leave the free-range chicken houses should not be directed into any water courses (drainage lines, rivers or wetlands).



| After Mitigation   |   |
|--|---|
| Extent of the Impact   | 2 |
| Duration of the Impact   | 2 |
| Intensity of the Impact  | 1 |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact | 5 |
| Probability  | 1 |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                            | 5 |

# 7.3 Construction Phase

Table 16: Environmental risk assessment: Environmental Awareness and Training

| Activity: Construction activities required to expand the free-range chicken farm.  |              |
|--|--------------|
| Aspect: Lack of environmental knowledge among employees.   |              |
| Nature of Environmental Impact: Harm to the environment due to employees or contract   | ctors being  |
| unaware of how their activities may impact the environment or due to unauthorised access   | to the site. |
| Before Mitigation  |              |
| Extent of the Impact   | 2            |
| Duration of the Impact   | 2            |
| Intensity of the Impact  | 2            |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact   | 6            |
| Probability  | 3            |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability  | 18           |
| Objective of Mitigation Measures   |              |
| To prove the green to the considerance of the continue of small control of control of the contro |              |

To prevent harm to the environment through the actions of uneducated employees or contractors.

#### **Proposed Mitigation**

- The contractor is to ensure that all employees, including sub-contractors and their employees, attend onsite Environmental Awareness/Training prior to commencing work on site.
- Follow-up Environmental Awareness/Training may be required from time to time as new subcontractors or crews commence work or for specific activities that may potentially impact the environment.
- The contractor is to maintain accurate records of any training undertaken.
- The ECO shall monitor the contractor's compliance with the requirement to provide sufficient environmental awareness training to all site staff.
- Training is to cover all aspects of the EMP and procedures to be followed.
- All construction workers shall be issued with ID badges and clearly identifiable uniforms.
- No animal species may be disturbed, hunted, killed or trapped.

| After Mitigation   |   |
|--|---|
| Extent of the Impact   | 1 |
| Duration of the Impact   | 1 |
| Intensity of the Impact  | 2 |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact | 4 |
| Probability  | 1 |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                            | 4 |

Table 17: Environmental risk assessment: Site clearance

Activity: Clearance of the site.

Aspect: Removal of indigenous vegetation beyond the project footprint.

Nature of Environmental Impact: Loss of indigenous grassland and habitats for indigenous fauna species.



Note the ecological fauna and flora habitat survey presented the following findings:

- A moderate diversity of indigenous plant species and animal species appears to be present at the proposed site.
- None of the threatened, near-threatened or other plant species of particular conservation concern appear to be present at the site.
- Since the proposed site falls outside reserves, threatened species such as the black rhinoceros (*Diceros bicornis*) and the African wild dog (*Lycaon pictus*) are obviously not present.
- No smaller mammals of particular high conservation significance are likely to be found on the site.
- No threat to any threatened bird species or any bird species of particular conservation importance are foreseen.
- There appears to be no threat to any reptile species of particular high conservation importance if the site is developed.
- There appears to be no threat to any amphibian species of particular high conservation importance if the site is developed.
- There appears to be no threat to any threatened butterfly species if the site is developed.
- There appears to be no threat to any of the fruit chafer beetles of particular high conservation priority if the site were developed.
- Scorpion species (Scorpiones: Ischnuridae) that are of known high conservation priority in the North West Province were not found at the site and the habitat does not appear to be optimal.
- No loss of particularly sensitive habitat of particular conservation importance is anticipated if the site is developed.
- No loss of corridors or connectivity of ecosystems is anticipated if the site is developed.

| Before Mitigation  |    |
|--|----|
| Extent of the Impact   | 2  |
| Duration of the Impact   | 2  |
| Intensity of the Impact  | 2  |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact | 6  |
| Probability  | 3  |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                            | 18 |
| Objective of Mitigation Measures   |    |

#### Objective of Mitigation Measures

To prevent the removal of vegetation outside the project footprint during site clearance.

- Before any construction takes place the proposed area for the expansion will be pegged out.
   All construction activities will be limited to within these areas in order to reduce the footprint of the proposed activity and avoid impact on adjacent natural vegetation and animal life.
- Construction areas should be fenced off or barricaded prior to and during construction.
- Site clearing is to be limited to only the area necessary for carrying out the specified work.
- The contractor is to draw up a plan for submission to the ECO and the free-range chicken facility manager indicating the locations of construction infrastructure including the site-camp, paint or cement cleaning pits, toilets, stores and site office.
- The site boundary is to be clearly demarcated and screened from the commencement of works. The erection of the final boundary fence or wall is preferable.
- All demarcation is to be regularly maintained.
- No unauthorised entry, stockpiling, dumping or storage of equipment outside the site boundary is permitted.
- All construction activities, labour and materials are to be restricted within the site boundary.
- Removal of vegetation is to be avoided until such time as soil stripping is required.



- Cleared indigenous vegetation can be stockpiled for possible reuse in later rehabilitation or landscaping or as a brush pack for erosion prevention.
- Once the construction activities have been completed, the remaining disturbed area must be top-soiled, sloped and re-vegetated as soon as possible using suitable grass species.
- Compacted soil should be ripped to ensure effective re-vegetation.
- Soil stabilising measures could include rotovating in straw bales (at a rate of 1 bale/20m²), applying mulching or brush packing or creating windbreaks using brush or bales.

| After Mitigation   |    |
|--|----|
| Extent of the Impact   | 1  |
| Duration of the Impact   | 2  |
| Intensity of the Impact  | 2  |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact | 5  |
| Probability  | 2  |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                            | 10 |

Table 18: Environmental risk assessment: Site clearance: Heritage

Activity: Clearance of the site.

Aspect: Disturbance of artifacts or sites of cultural heritage (archaeological and historical) significance.

Nature of Environmental Impact: A Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment found that the area where the proposed free range chicken cluster will be situated is flat and has been disturbed in the recent past through agricultural activities and if any significant sites did exist here in the past it would have been disturbed or destroyed to a large degree.

No Stone Age or Historical sites, features or objects were found. A few pieces of undecorated pottery, dating to the Late Iron Age, were found, but these finds are insignificant from an archaeological heritage point of view as they are out of context and not related to any stone walled features.

Based on the findings from the HIA it was determined that from a Heritage point of view the development could be allowed to continue. However it should always be kept in mind that the subterranean presence of archaeological and/or historical sites, features or artefacts (such as unknown and unmarked burials) are always a distinct possibility. If during any development activities, any sites, features and objects of a cultural heritage (archaeological or historical) nature, are exposed, an expert should be contacted to investigate and all development halted until the situation has been resolved.

| Before Mitigation  |   |
|--|---|
| Extent of the Impact   | 1 |
| Duration of the Impact   | 3 |
| Intensity of the Impact  | 2 |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact             | 6 |
| Probability  | 1 |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability  | 6 |
| Objective of Mitigation Measures   |   |
| To protect artifacts or sites of cultural heritage (archaeological and historical) significance. |   |

# **Proposed Mitigation**

- If any sites, features or objects are found during site clearance, all activities must cease and a heritage expert must be contacted to investigate the site.
- No sites, features or objects may be disturbed (e.g. picked up) by employees.

# **After Mitigation**



| Extent of the Impact   | 1 |
|--|---|
| Duration of the Impact   | 3 |
| Intensity of the Impact  | 1 |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact | 5 |
| Probability  | 1 |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                            | 5 |

Table 19: Environmental risk assessment: Topsoil stockpiling

| Activity: Stockpiling of topsoil and cleared vegetation.                                  |    |
|---|----|
| Aspect: Topsoil being exposed to the elements.  |    |
| Nature of Environmental Impact: Degradation and erosion of a valuable resource (topsoil). |    |
| Before Mitigation   |    |
| Extent of the Impact  | 1  |
| Duration of the Impact  | 2  |
| Intensity of the Impact   | 3  |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact      | 6  |
| Probability   | 3  |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                                 | 18 |
| Objective of Mitigation Measures  |    |

To reduce the duration and extent of exposure of topsoil to preserve it as a resource and protect it from erosion.

- Topsoil (top 150mm) is to be stockpiled in discrete areas and retained for future landscaping efforts.
- Any sub-soil or rocks removed should also be stockpiled separately and be used during the rehabilitation.
- The contractor is to ensure that all reasonable measures are taken to limit erosion during the construction phase. Erosion protection measures include sand bags, cut-off drains and/or berms
- Cleared indigenous vegetation should be used as a brush pack on topsoil stockpiles for erosion prevention.
- If sterilisation of the topsoil has occurred during stockpiling, inorganic fertilisers will be used to supplement the soils before seeding of the area takes place.

| After Mitigation   |   |
|--|---|
| Extent of the Impact   | 1 |
| Duration of the Impact   | 1 |
| Intensity of the Impact  | 3 |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact | 5 |
| Probability  | 1 |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                            | 5 |

Table 20: Environmental risk assessment: Fire risk

| Activity: Hot work activities, smoking and cooking.                                  |            |
|--|------------|
| Aspect: Runaway veldt fires.   |            |
| Nature of Environmental Impact: Loss of indigenous grassland and habitats for indige | nous fauna |
| species.   |            |
| Before Mitigation  |            |
| Extent of the Impact   | 2          |
| Duration of the Impact   | 1          |
|  |            |



| Intensity of the Impact  | 2  |
|--|----|
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact | 5  |
| Probability  | 2  |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                            | 10 |
| Objective of Mitigation Measures   |    |
| To prevent the occurrence and spreading of a veldt fire.                             |    |

# **Proposed Mitigation**

# **Equipment**

- Basic fire-fighting equipment is to be placed at strategic locations on site and must be readily available (e.g. at the site office, flammable material store and watchman's container).
- Equipment is to be maintained in good working order to the satisfaction of local fire authorities.
- All personnel handling fuels and hazardous materials are to be issued with the appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

# Signage

- Safety signage including "No Smoking", "No Naked Lights" and "Danger", and product identification signs, are to be clearly displayed on fuel storage facilities and tanks.
- Emergency numbers are to be clearly displayed.

# **Training**

- An emergency procedure, taking into consideration all potential emergencies, such as a fire outbreak, hazardous chemical spill, etc. should be compiled.
- The contractor is to ensure that all employees, including sub-contractors and their employees, are trained on the emergency procedure.
- Follow-up emergency training may be required from time to time as new subcontractors or crews commence work.
- The contractor is to maintain accurate records of any emergency training undertaken.
- The ECO shall monitor the contractor's compliance with the requirement to provide sufficient emergency training to all site staff.

## **Activities**

- All construction workers shall be transported to and from site on a daily basis.
- Workers shall remain on the site at all times during the work day and no one will be allowed to leave site by foot, not even during break times.
- Cooking during lunch is to be restricted to bottled gas facilities in designated areas approved by the ECO. This facility is to be supervised and strictly controlled.
- A dedicated braai facility may be permitted in an area approved by the ECO, if it is in close proximity to firefighting equipment. At no time is a braai fire to be left unattended.
- Smoking is prohibited near places where any readily combustible or flammable materials are present. Notices are to be prominently displayed prohibiting smoking in such areas.
- Welding, flame cutting and other hot work is only to be undertaken in places where the
  necessary safety precautions are in place (i.e. not near potential sources of combustion and
  with a fire extinguisher immediately accessible).
- If applicable, night watchmen are to be provided with adequate cooking and heating facilities (no open fires), a suitable method of disposing of wastewater and access to communication equipment.
- No open fires are permitted.

# Flammable materials

- Flammable materials storage must comply with standard fire safety regulations.
- All flammable materials are to be stored in a suitable, lockable storage area.



- Combustible materials may not accumulate on the construction site.
- Access to fuel and chemical stores should be strictly controlled.
- Stockpiles of vegetation are only to be located in areas approved by the facility manager and may not exceed 2m in height. Methods of stacking must take cognisance of the possible creation of a fire hazard.
- Burning of stockpiled vegetation is not permitted.

| After Mitigation   |   |
|--|---|
| Extent of the Impact   | 1 |
| Duration of the Impact   | 1 |
| Intensity of the Impact  | 2 |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact | 4 |
| Probability  | 1 |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                            | 4 |

Table 21: Environmental risk assessment: Cement and concrete

| Activity: The handling, storage, mixing and disposal of cement and concrete.         |    |
|--|----|
| Aspect: Concrete and cement spillage.  |    |
| Nature of Environmental Impact: Soil and surface water pollution.                    |    |
| Before Mitigation  |    |
| Extent of the Impact   | 2  |
| Duration of the Impact   | 2  |
| Intensity of the Impact  | 2  |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact | 6  |
| Probability  | 2  |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                            | 12 |
| Objective of Mitigation Measures   |    |

To prevent the pollution of soil and surface water as a result of spillage-, improper handling-, storage-, mixing- or disposal- of cement and concrete.

- Dry cement must be removed from the soil surface to prevent an impermeable layer forming on top of the soil. The cement must be disposed of together with any building rubble.
- Ready-mix trucks are not permitted to clean chutes on site. Cleaning into foundations or a dedicated cleaning pit is permitted.
- Bricklayers and plasterers are to minimise any cement spill or runoff in their work area and are to ensure that the work area is cleaned of all cement spillage at the end of each workday.
- Both used and unused cement bags are to be stored in weatherproof containers so as not to be affected by rain or runoff.
- Contaminated soil resulting from concrete or cement spills, including residue produced by the
  washing of cavities, are to be removed immediately after the spillage has occurred and placed
  on the appropriate rubble stockpile.
- Runoff from the washing out of wall cavities is to be contained against the building by excavations of berms around the foundations. All reasonable measures must be taken to prevent the dirty water from contaminating a watercourse.

| After Mitigation   |   |
|--|---|
| Extent of the Impact   | 1 |
| Duration of the Impact   | 1 |
| Intensity of the Impact  | 2 |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact | 4 |
| Probability  | 2 |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                            | 8 |
|  |   |

Table 22: Environmental risk assessment: Generation of wash water

| Activity: The cleaning of equipment and construction areas.                          |    |
|--|----|
| Aspect: Generation and runoff of contaminated wash water.                            |    |
| Nature of Environmental Impact: Potential soil and surface water pollution.          |    |
| Before Mitigation  |    |
| Extent of the Impact   | 2  |
| Duration of the Impact   | 2  |
| Intensity of the Impact  | 2  |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact | 6  |
| Probability  | 2  |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                            | 12 |
| Objective of Mitigation Measures   |    |

To prevent the pollution of soil and surface water bodies through contaminated wash water. An example of this would be water that is contaminated with cement or concrete.

# **Proposed Mitigation**

- No washing of vehicles is permitted on site.
- A dedicated temporary cleaning area is to be identified to facilitate washing of all cement and painting equipment.
- The cleaning area could be a plastic lined cleaning pit or dedicated plastic or metal drums, located as close as possible to a water point.
- No wastewater/wash water may be disposed of on site, onto the soil or into any water body.
- Runoff from the washing activities is to be contained against the building by excavations of berms around the foundations.

| After Mitigation   |   |
|--|---|
| Extent of the Impact   | 1 |
| Duration of the Impact   | 1 |
| Intensity of the Impact  | 2 |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact | 4 |
| Probability  | 1 |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                            | 4 |

Table 23: Environmental risk assessment: Vehicle and equipment maintenance.

| Activity: Vehicle and equipment maintenance and fueling.                                 |              |
|--|--------------|
| Aspect: Leaking and/or spilling of fuels, greases and oils.                              |              |
| Nature of Environmental Impact: Hydrocarbon pollution of soil, surface -and groundwater. |              |
| Before Mitigation  |              |
| Extent of the Impact   | 2            |
| Duration of the Impact   | 2            |
| Intensity of the Impact  | 3            |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact     | 7            |
| Probability  | 3            |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                                | 21           |
| Objective of Mitigation Measures   |              |
| To prove the description of sale surface, and proved victor through the sale             | Dan at total |

To prevent hydrocarbon pollution of soils, surface- and ground- water through the spilling of fuel, grease or oil or leaking equipment and vehicles.

- Equipment and vehicles are to be repaired immediately upon developing leaks.
- Drip trays shall be supplied for all repair work undertaken on machinery on site.



- Drip trays are to be utilised during greasing and re-fuelling of machinery and to contain incidental spills and pollutants.
- Drip trays are to be inspected daily for leaks and effectiveness and emptied when necessary. This is to be closely monitored during rain events to prevent overflow.
- Appropriate equipment to deal with emergency spill incidents is to be readily available on site.
   This includes fire extinguishers, spill kits for hydrocarbon spills, drip trays for equipment and/or machinery leaks and drums or containers for contaminated water.
- Soil contaminated with hazardous substances, fuel or oil shall be treated as hazardous waste and removed from site.
- If refueling on site or from drums, the ground must be protected and proper dispensing equipment is to be used i.e. hand pumps and funnels. Drums may not be tipped to dispense fuel
- All liquid fuels (petrol and diesel) are to be stored in tanks or containers with lids.
- Inspect vehicles on entering the facility to ensure vehicles are in sound condition to reduce the risk of oil or diesel spillages.

| After Mitigation   |    |
|--|----|
| Extent of the Impact   | 1  |
| Duration of the Impact   | 2  |
| Intensity of the Impact  | 3  |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact | 6  |
| Probability  | 2  |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                            | 12 |

Table 24: Environmental risk assessment: General/domestic and hazardous waste

Activity: Handling, storage and disposal of general/domestic and hazardous waste.

Aspect: Poor waste management.

Nature of Environmental Impact: Soil, surface- and groundwater pollution. Nuisance caused by odours and unsightly appearance of waste onsite.

| Extent of the Impact  Duration of the Impact  Intensity of the Impact  Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact  Probability  Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability | Before Mitigation |  |
|---|-------------------|--|
| Intensity of the Impact  Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact  Probability  | 2                 |  |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact  Probability   | 2                 |  |
| Probability   | 2                 |  |
| *   | 6                 |  |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability   | 3                 |  |
| Environmental Riok – Significance of impact X 1 100 ability   | 18                |  |

# **Objective of Mitigation Measures**

To prevent soil, surface- and groundwater pollution and nuisance due to poor waste management.

- Installation of sufficient waste bins, skips or bulk containers where necessary.
- All containers (bins, skips or bulk containers) shall be kept in a clean and hygienic manner.
- Containers (bins, skips or bulk containers) utilised for the disposal of general and hazardous waste must be demarcated accordingly.
- Waste material may only be temporarily stored at areas demarcated for such storage practices.
- General waste shall be stored in a manner that prevents the harbouring of pests.
- General waste materials should always be stored or disposed of separately from hazardous waste material (e.g. oil, diesel).
- General and hazardous waste can be deposited into appropriately demarcated bins at the construction activities. Bins are then emptied into appropriately demarcated skips or bulk containers at the end of each day or more often if required.
- Skips or bulk containers should be removed to a nearby landfill site on a weekly basis or more



| often if required.   |   |
|--|---|
| After Mitigation   |   |
| Extent of the Impact   | 1 |
| Duration of the Impact   | 1 |
| Intensity of the Impact  | 2 |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact | 4 |
| Probability  | 2 |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                            | 8 |

Table 25: Environmental risk assessment: Dust

| Activity: Excavation activities, loading and offloading activities and vehicles travelling to and from the |    |
|--|----|
| site.  |    |
| Aspect: Dust generation.   |    |
| Nature of Environmental Impact: Degradation of ambient air quality.  |    |
| Before Mitigation  |    |
| Extent of the Impact   | 2  |
| Duration of the Impact   | 1  |
| Intensity of the Impact  | 2  |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact                       | 5  |
| Probability  | 3  |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability  | 15 |
| Objective of Mitigation Measures   |    |

To minimise the impact of excavation activities, loading and offloading activities and vehicles travelling to and from the site on the ambient air quality.

- A dustcart needs to be onsite to water down dusty road.
- Speed bumps or traffic speed signs need to be erected to reduce speeding onsite that could result in the generation of dust.
- Regular maintenance of vehicles to address wear of tires and breaks. Optimal engine combustion will allow for 'cleaner' exhaust emissions.

| After Mitigation   |    |
|--|----|
| Extent of the Impact   | 2  |
| Duration of the Impact   | 1  |
| Intensity of the Impact  | 2  |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact | 5  |
| Probability  | 2  |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                            | 10 |

Table 26: Environmental risk assessment: Utilisation of groundwater

| Activity: Utilisation of groundwater.  |    |
|--|----|
| Aspect: Water leaking from JoJo tanks, pipes, taps etc.                                  |    |
| Nature of Environmental Impact: Wastage or depletion of a valuable resource (groundwater | ). |
| Before Mitigation  |    |
| Extent of the Impact   | 2  |
| Duration of the Impact   | 1  |
| Intensity of the Impact  | 2  |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact     | 5  |
| Probability  | 3  |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                                | 15 |



# **Objective of Mitigation Measures**

Prevent the wastage or depletion of a valuable resource (groundwater).

# **Proposed Mitigation**

- Regular inspection and maintenance of all boreholes, JoJo tanks, toilets, water pipes and taps.
- Leaking JoJo tanks, taps, toilets and pipes are to be repaired immediately.
- Running water taps and pipes may not be left unattended.
- Each time you flush the toilets approximately 20 litres of water is used, therefore use the toilets accordingly.
- All pipe, hose and tap connections are to be fitted with correct and appropriate plumbing fittings.

| After Mitigation   |   |
|--|---|
| Extent of the Impact   | 2 |
| Duration of the Impact   | 1 |
| Intensity of the Impact  | 2 |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact | 5 |
| Probability  | 1 |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                            | 5 |

Table 27: Environmental risk assessment: Ablution facilities

| Activity: Installation and use of ablution facilities.                               |    |
|--|----|
| Aspect: Unsanitary conditions on site.   |    |
| Nature of Environmental Impact: Soil, surface- and groundwater pollution.            |    |
| Before Mitigation  |    |
| Extent of the Impact   | 2  |
| Duration of the Impact   | 1  |
| Intensity of the Impact  | 2  |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact | 5  |
| Probability  | 2  |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                            | 10 |
| Objective of Mitigation Measures   |    |

# Prevent soil, surface- and groundwater pollution from unsanitary conditions onsite.

- Sufficient ablution facilities shall be provided minimum of 1 toilet per 15 workers.
- The location of toilets is to be approved by the ECO prior to site establishment, but shall be located within 100m of any work point.
- Ablating anywhere other than in the toilets shall not be allowed.
- The ablution facilities are to be secured to avoid them from blowing or falling over.
- The contractor shall ensure that any chemicals and/or waste from the ablution facilities are not spilled on the ground at any time.
- Ablution facilities are to be serviced weekly or more frequently if required.
- The contractor is to ensure that no spillage occurs and that the contents are removed from site on a regular basis.

| After Mitigation   |   |
|--|---|
| Extent of the Impact   | 1 |
| Duration of the Impact   | 1 |
| Intensity of the Impact  | 2 |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact | 4 |
| Probability  | 1 |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                            | 4 |



Table 28: Environmental risk assessment: Hazardous chemical substances.

Activity: Storage and handling of hazardous chemical substances including fuel, greases and oils.

Aspect: Poor management and spills of hazardous chemical substances including fuel, greases and oils.

Nature of Environmental Impact: Soil, surface water and groundwater pollution.

| Nature of Environmental impact. Soil, Surface water and groundwater polition.        |    |
|--|----|
| Before Mitigation  |    |
| Extent of the Impact   | 2  |
| Duration of the Impact   | 2  |
| Intensity of the Impact  | 3  |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact | 7  |
| Probability  | 3  |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                            | 21 |
| Objective of Mitigation Measures   |    |

To prevent and minimise soil and water pollution as a result of poor management and accidental spills of hazardous chemical substances including fuel, greases and oils used onsite.

- Identify all hazardous chemical substances used onsite including fuel, greases and oils.
- Obtain the material safety data sheet of each of hazardous chemical substance.
- Ensure that the material safety data sheets have sufficient information to enable the user to take the necessary measures to protect his/her health and safety and that of the environment.
- Material Safety Data Sheets for all hazardous chemical substances must be readily available on site.
- Keep a stock inventory register of all chemicals in the store.
- Powders must be stored above liquids.
- Proper storage of chemicals in a lockable, well ventilated building.
- Ensure adequate access control for the storage area.
- Storage areas for hazardous chemicals are to comply with standard fire safety regulations.
- Safety signage including "No Smoking", "No Naked Lights" and "Danger", and product identification signs, are to be clearly displayed in areas housing chemicals.
- Appropriate equipment to deal with emergency spill incidents is to be readily available on site.
   This includes fire extinguishers, spill kits for hydrocarbon spills, drip trays for equipment and/or machinery leaks, drums or containers for contaminated water.
- Chemicals are to be properly labeled and handled in a safety conscious manner.
- All personnel handling hazardous chemicals and hazardous materials are to be issued with the appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).
- Ensure that diesel/ fuel tanks are in a bunded area with capacity of holding 110% of the total storage volume.
- The removal of only the daily-required amount of chemicals to be used from the shed.
- If refueling on site or from drums, the ground must be protected and proper dispensing equipment is to be used i.e. hand pumps and funnels. Drums may not be tipped to dispense fuel.
- Use of drip trays during filling of machinery or equipment. Drip trays should be emptied into secondary containers on a regular basis.
- Ensure that any spilled chemical cannot exit the designated storage area by constructing a berm or bump at the exit, or store chemicals in a spill tray.
- Immediately clean all spillage of fuels, lubricants and other petroleum based products.
- The contaminated material must be disposed of in accordance with the waste management procedure.
- No hazardous chemical must be discarded in the sewage or storm water system.
- Train staff on the use of chemicals in accordance with the risks as described in the material data



sheets.

Soil contaminated with hazardous chemical substances shall be treated as hazardous waste and removed from site.

| After Mitigation   |    |
|--|----|
| Extent of the Impact   | 2  |
| Duration of the Impact   | 1  |
| Intensity of the Impact  | 2  |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact | 5  |
| Probability  | 2  |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                            | 10 |

Table 29: Environmental risk assessment: Noise

| Activity: Construction workers, vehicles, machinery and general noisy construction activities |   |
|---|---|
| Aspect: Generation of noise.  |   |
| Nature of Environmental Impact: Disturbance and nuisance to neighbors.                        |   |
| Before Mitigation   |   |
| Extent of the Impact  | 2 |
| Duration of the Impact  | 1 |
| Intensity of the Impact   | 1 |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact          | 4 |
| Probability   | 2 |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                                     | 8 |
| Objective of Mitigation Measures  |   |
| Minimise the noise generation during the construction phase                                   |   |

Minimise the noise generation during the construction phase.

#### **Proposed Mitigation**

- The site workers and contractors will adhere to the requirements of the Occupational Health and Safety Act, 1993 (Act No. 85 of 1993) regarding hearing protection and noise control measures.
- Regular maintenance of vehicles and equipment.
- All equipment and machinery should be fitted with adequate silencers.
- Working hours should be restricted to daylight hours.
- No sound amplification equipment such as sirens, loud hailers or hooters are to be used on site except in emergencies and no amplified music is permitted on site.
- If work is to be undertaken outside of normal work hours permission must be obtained from the ECO and the free-range chicken facility manager.
- No noisy work is to be conducted over the weekends or on public holidays.

| After Mitigation   |   |
|--|---|
| Extent of the Impact   | 1 |
| Duration of the Impact   | 1 |
| Intensity of the Impact  | 1 |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact | 3 |
| Probability  | 1 |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                            | 3 |

# 7.4 Operational Phase

Table 30: Environmental risk assessment: Environmental Awareness and Training

Activity: Operational activities at the free-range chicken facilities.

Aspect: Lack of environmental knowledge among employees.

Nature of Environmental Impact: Harm to the environment due to employees being unaware of how



| their activities may impact the environment or due to unauthorised access to the site. |    |
|--|----|
| Before Mitigation  |    |
| Extent of the Impact   | 2  |
| Duration of the Impact   | 1  |
| Intensity of the Impact  | 2  |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact   | 5  |
| Probability  | 2  |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                              | 10 |
| Objective of Mitigation Measures   |    |
| To prevent harm to the environment through the actions of uneducated employees         |    |

To prevent harm to the environment through the actions of uneducated employees.

#### **Proposed Mitigation**

- All employees are required to attend onsite Environmental Awareness/Training prior to commencing work on site.
- Follow-up Environmental Awareness/Training may be required from time to time as new employees commence work or for specific activities that may potentially impact the environment.
- The facility manager is to maintain accurate records of any training undertaken.
- The ECO shall monitor the facility managers' compliance with the requirement to provide sufficient environmental awareness training to all site staff.
- Training is to cover all aspects of the EMP and procedures to be followed.

| After Mitigation   |   |
|--|---|
| Extent of the Impact   | 1 |
| Duration of the Impact   | 1 |
| Intensity of the Impact  | 1 |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact | 3 |
| Probability  | 1 |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                            | 3 |

Table 31: Environmental risk assessment: Dust

| Activity: Increased traffic frequency.   |    |
|--|----|
| Aspect: Dust generation.   |    |
| Nature of Environmental Impact: Degradation of ambient air quality.                  |    |
| Before Mitigation  |    |
|  |    |
| Extent of the Impact   | 2  |
| Duration of the Impact   | 1  |
| Intensity of the Impact  | 2  |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact | 5  |
| Probability  | 3  |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                            | 15 |
| Objective of Mitigation Measures   |    |

To minimise the impact of dust generated by the increased traffic frequency on the ambient air quality.

- A dustcart needs to be onsite to water down dusty road.
- Speed bumps or traffic speed signs need to be erected to reduce speeding onsite that could result in the generation of dust.
- Regular maintenance of vehicles to address wear of tires and breaks. Optimal engine combustion will allow for 'cleaner' exhaust emissions.
- If the soil is compacted, open areas should be ripped, fertilised and re-vegetated as soon as possible using suitable grass species.

| After Mitigation     |   |
|----------------------|---|
| Extent of the Impact | 2 |
|                      |   |

| Duration of the Impact   | 1 |
|--|---|
| Intensity of the Impact  | 2 |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact | 5 |
| Probability  |   |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                            | 5 |

Table 32: Environmental risk assessment: Exothermic hot water generators and coal storage areas

Activity: Coal used in the exothermic hot water generators.

Aspect: Generation of emissions from the exothermic hot water generators (such as carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide, sulphur dioxide and nitrous oxides) and coal storage bunkers (fine coal dust or particulate matter).

| Nature of Environmental Impact: Degradation of ambient air quality (air pollution).  |    |
|--|----|
| Before Mitigation  |    |
| Extent of the Impact   | 2  |
| Duration of the Impact   | 1  |
| Intensity of the Impact  | 2  |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact | 5  |
| Probability  | 3  |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                            | 15 |
| Objective of Mitigation Measures   |    |

To minimise the impact of emissions on the ambient air quality.

# **Proposed Mitigation**

- Use high-grade coal where possible as lower grade coal may result in higher sulphur emissions.
- Regular maintenance of the exothermic hot water generators. Optimal combustion will allow for 'cleaner' stack emissions.
- Ensure adequate storage of coal to minimise dispersion of fine coal dust, i.e. a covered storage area.
- The storage area should be demarcated and Safety signage including "No Smoking", "No Naked Lights" and "Danger", are to be clearly displayed at the coal storage area.
- Fire extinguishers should be readily available at the coal storage area.

| After Mitigation   |   |
|--|---|
| Extent of the Impact   | 1 |
| Duration of the Impact   | 1 |
| Intensity of the Impact  | 1 |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact | 3 |
| Probability  | 2 |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                            | 6 |

Table 33: Environmental risk assessment: Noise

Activity: Increased vehicle frequency and general operational activities.

Aspect: Generation of noise.

Nature of Environmental Impact: Disturbance and nuisance to neighbors. According to Jorgensen & Johnson (1981), the noise levels generated by general construction activities on a building site can reach levels of approximately 70 dB, caused by for instance heavy machinery. Sound is inversely proportional to the distance from the source and can get absorbed by buildings and vegetation barriers. Noise intensities (dB) will be at their highest on site and will decrease as you move away from their sources.

The noise decline curve below gives an indication of how noise generated at the site will decrease with distance. This gives an indication of the distance that the sound would have travelled upon reaching a

level of 60 dB, prescribed by the SABS as being the acceptable limit for environmental noise. At a distance of 27 metres from the construction site, the generated noise would have decreased to a level of 60 dB and at a distance of 45 metres it would have decreased to approximately 55dB. Noise travelling further than 45 metres will have a low impact on neighbouring farms and residential areas.

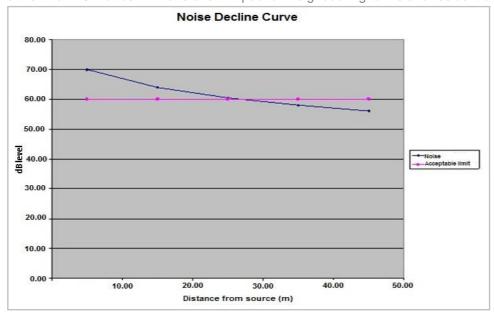


Figure 34: Noise decline curve

As shown in the figure below, the distance from Site to sensitive noise receptors (residences and other free-range cluster) is more than 45 metres in all cases.



Figure 35: Distance from Site 1 to sensitive receptors.

| Before Mitigation       |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| Extent of the Impact    | 1 |
| Duration of the Impact  | 1 |
| Intensity of the Impact | 1 |

| 3 |
|---|
| 3 |
| 9 |
|   |
|   |

To maintain a dB reading of less than 50dB at the site boundary.

# **Proposed Mitigation**

- The site workers and contractors will adhere to the requirements of the Occupational Health and Safety Act, 1993 (Act No. 85 of 1993) regarding hearing protection and noise control measures.
- Regular maintenance of vehicles, back-up generators and equipment.
- All equipment and machinery should be fitted with adequate silencers.
- No sound amplification equipment such as sirens, loud hailers or hooters are to be used on site
  except in emergencies and no amplified music is permitted on site.
- If work is to be undertaken outside of normal work hours permission must be obtained from the ECO and the free-range chicken facility manager.
- No noisy work is to be conducted over the weekends or on public holidays.

| ,  |   |
|--|---|
| After Mitigation   |   |
| Extent of the Impact   | 1 |
| Duration of the Impact   | 1 |
| Intensity of the Impact  | 1 |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact | 3 |
| Probability  | 1 |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                            | 3 |

Table 34: Environmental risk assessment: Handling and storage of coal.

| Activity: Handling and storage of coal.  |    |
|--|----|
| Aspect: Poor management and spillage of coal.  |    |
| Nature of Environmental Impact: Soil, surface- and groundwater- pollution.           |    |
| Before Mitigation  |    |
| Extent of the Impact   | 2  |
| Duration of the Impact   | 1  |
| Intensity of the Impact  | 2  |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact | 5  |
| Probability  | 2  |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                            | 10 |
| Objective of Mitigation Measures   |    |
| To angure the proper handling and storage of each                                    |    |

To ensure the proper handling and storage of coal.

- Store coal in bunkers.
- Construct a bump/berm at the bunker entrance to prevent rain water from entering the bunker and becoming contaminated.
- Construct a roof to prevent rain water from being contaminated by the coal.
- Prevent coal spillages during loading and remove any coal spillages from the soil and return to the coal bunker.

| the coar barner.   |   |
|--|---|
| After Mitigation   |   |
| Extent of the Impact   | 1 |
| Duration of the Impact   | 1 |
| Intensity of the Impact  | 1 |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact | 3 |
| Probability  | 1 |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                            | 3 |

Table 35: Environmental risk assessment: General or domestic and hazardous waste

Activity: Handling, storage and disposal of general or domestic and hazardous waste.

Aspect: Poor waste management.

Nature of Environmental Impact: Soil, surface- and groundwater pollution. Nuisance caused by odours and unsightly appearance of waste onsite.

| 0 7 11   |    |
|--|----|
| Before Mitigation  |    |
| Extent of the Impact   | 2  |
| Duration of the Impact   | 2  |
| Intensity of the Impact  | 2  |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact | 6  |
| Probability  | 3  |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                            | 18 |
| Objective of Mitigation Measures   |    |

To prevent soil, surface- and groundwater pollution and nuisance as a result of poor waste management.

- Develop a waste management plan.
- Take note that hazardous waste includes litter, mortalities, ash, empty hazardous chemical substance containers, soil and material (e.g. cloths) contaminated by hazardous chemical substances, etc.
- The waste management plan should consider the type of waste, description, source, storage, disposal method, disposal facility and responsible person.
- The implementation of the waste management plan should ensure:
  - Installation of sufficient waste bins, skips or bulk containers, where necessary.
  - All containers (bins, skips or bulk containers) shall be kept in a clean and hygienic manner.
  - Containers (bins, skips or bulk containers) utilised for the disposal of general and hazardous waste must be demarcated accordingly.
  - > Waste material may only be temporarily stored at areas demarcated for such storage.
  - General waste shall be stored in a manner that prevents the harbouring of pests.
  - General and hazardous waste should always be stored and disposed of separately.
  - General and hazardous waste should be disposed of in appropriately demarcated bins. Bins are then emptied into appropriately demarcated skips or bulk containers once a day or more often, if required.
  - Skips or bulk containers should be removed to a nearby landfill site on a weekly basis or more often, if required.
  - Safe disposal certificates should be requested from general and hazardous landfill sites with every waste disposal.
  - These safe disposal certificates should be kept on file to illustrate compliance with the cradle to grave principle.
  - The ECO shall monitor the compliance with the cradle to grave principle.
- No incineration of any kind of waste will be permitted onsite.

| After Mitigation   |   |
|--|---|
| Extent of the Impact   | 1 |
| Duration of the Impact   | 1 |
| Intensity of the Impact  | 1 |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact | 3 |
| Probability  | 1 |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                            | 3 |



Table 36: Environmental risk assessment: Handling, storage and disposal of ash.

Activity: The burning of coal to heat free-range chicken houses.

Aspect: Generation of ash.

Nature of Environmental Impact: Ash consists mainly of inert materials, such as alumina and silica. Small quantities of sulphur are also present. If stored in huge quantities, this can react with water and cause acid drainage.

| g  |    |
|--|----|
| Before Mitigation  |    |
| Extent of the Impact   | 2  |
| Duration of the Impact   | 2  |
| Intensity of the Impact  | 3  |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact | 7  |
| Probability  | 3  |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                            | 21 |
|  |    |

Objective of Mitigation Measures

To prevent soil, surface- and groundwater pollution and nuisance as a result of poor waste management.

# **Proposed Mitigation**

Note: The management of ash should be included in the waste management plan.

- Ash must be stored on a concrete area or in suitable container prior to removal.
- Further research and consulting is required to determine which technology, design and process would be the most economically, socially and environmentally sustainable option for the handling, storage and disposal of ash.
- Should ash be disposed of off-site, a safe disposal certificate must be obtained. Ash is deemed to be hazardous waste.

| After Mitigation   |   |
|--|---|
| Extent of the Impact   | 2 |
| Duration of the Impact   | 2 |
| Intensity of the Impact  | 3 |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact | 7 |
| Probability  | 1 |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                            | 7 |

Table 37: Environmental risk assessment: Chicken mortalities

| Activity: Storage and disposal of chicken mortalities.                                |              |
|---|--------------|
| Aspect: Poor waste (chicken mortality) management.                                    |              |
| Nature of Environmental Impact: Soil, surface- and groundwater pollution.             |              |
| Before Mitigation   |              |
| Extent of the Impact  | 2            |
| Duration of the Impact  | 2            |
| Intensity of the Impact   | 3            |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact  | 7            |
| Probability   | 3            |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                             | 21           |
| Objective of Mitigation Measures  |              |
| To minimise the impact of hazardous mortality waste on human health, avian health, so | il- surface- |

To minimise the impact of hazardous mortality waste on human health, avian health, soil-, surface-, groundwater pollution and the nuisance caused by odours.

# **Proposed Mitigation**

Note: The management of chicken mortalities should be included in the waste management plan.

# **Temporary storage of mortalities**

- The temporary storage area for mortalities must be a covered area that has access control, preventing the unlawful removal of mortalities. The current practise of storing mortalities in the mortality rooms (enclosed and roofed buildings) is acceptable.
- In the event of temporary storage, mortalities must be stored in sealed bins prior to disposal.

# **Disposal of mortalities**

- Mortalities must be disposed of as soon as possible.
- Mortalities are currently taken to the Fourie's Poultry rendering plant on a daily basis. Rendering is seen as an acceptable way of sterilising the poultry waste (mortalities).

# Disposal of mass mortalities

In the event of a disease outbreak:

- Notify the state vet.
- The state vet must visit the site.
- The state vet will place the property, or the specific chicken site or house that is infected, under quarantine.
- Depending on the disease and severity, the chickens can be slaughtered on site or transported to an abattoir with a Red Cross permit.
- Alternatively, mortalities can be covered with lime and buried.

| After Mitigation   |   |
|--|---|
| Extent of the Impact   | 2 |
| Duration of the Impact   | 1 |
| Intensity of the Impact  | 3 |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact | 6 |
| Probability  | 1 |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                            | 6 |

Table 38: Environmental risk assessment: Litter (manure and bedding)

Activity: Handling, storage and disposal of chicken litter.

Aspect: Poor waste (litter) management.

Nature of Environmental Impact: Manure refers to the combination of faeces and urine (uric acid) excreted by poultry. Ammonia is produced as a by-product of the microbial decomposition of the organic nitrogen compounds in manure. Nitrogen occurs as both unabsorbed nutrients in animal faeces and as either urea (mammals) or uric acid (poultry) in urine.

The formation of ammonia in faeces is slower, but will continue with the microbial breakdown of manure under both aerobic and anaerobic conditions. The potential for ammonia emissions exists wherever manure is present and ammonia will be emitted from confinement buildings, open lots, stockpiles, anaerobic lagoons and land application from both wet and dry handling systems.

Emissions will depend on how much of the ammonia-nitrogen in solution reacts to form ammonia versus ionised ammonium (NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>), which is non-volatile.

The volatilisation of ammonia from any manure management operation can be highly variable depending on the following:

- total ammonia concentration;
- temperature: high temperatures favour higher concentrations of ammonia and thus greater ammonia emissions;
- pH: high pH favours higher concentrations of ammonia and thus greater ammonia emissions; and storage time.

| Before Mitigation    |   |
|----------------------|---|
| Extent of the Impact | 2 |
|                      |   |



| Duration of the Impact   | 2  |
|--|----|
| Intensity of the Impact  | 2  |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact | 6  |
| Probability  | 2  |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                            | 12 |
| Objective of Mitigation Measures   |    |

Maintaining good litter conditions is important in minimising and preventing atmospheric ammonia emissions and the social impact (nuisance) of odours from the litter.

## **Proposed Mitigation**

Note: The management of chicken litter should be included in the waste management plan.

- Maintain good litter conditions by keeping the litter dry throughout the production cycle.
- Litter should be collected and bagged immediately after a production cycle and prior to removal.
- The free-range chicken houses must be dry cleaned efficiently to remove as much litter as possible and to reduce the amount of wash water used.
- The removal of manure will occur after every cycle to prevent accumulation on site, keeping the nutrient rich manure from polluting surface and groundwater bodies, avoiding offensive smells and ensuring the hygiene and health of the new flock.
- Litter will be preserved in a dry area, covered by sheeting or within a shed to protect it from rain and leaching. This is to prevent the formation of noxious odours and ammonia.
- Litter is currently removed from site by a feedlot contractor.

| After Billington   |   |
|--|---|
| After Mitigation   |   |
| Extent of the Impact   | 1 |
| Duration of the Impact   | 1 |
| Intensity of the Impact  | 2 |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact | 4 |
| Probability  | 1 |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                            | 4 |

Table 39: Environmental risk assessment: Washing of free-range chicken houses.

| Activity: Washing of free-range chicken houses.   |    |
|---|----|
| Aspect: Run off of contaminated water.  |    |
| Nature of Environmental Impact: Pollution, siltation and erosion of surface water bodies. |    |
| Before Mitigation   |    |
| Extent of the Impact  | 2  |
| Duration of the Impact  | 1  |
| Intensity of the Impact   | 2  |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact      | 5  |
| Probability   | 2  |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                                 | 10 |
| Objective of Mitigation Measures  |    |

To control the runoff of wash water created when the free-range chicken houses are cleaned.

- Free-range chicken houses are cleaned after each cycle.
- After litter is bagged and stored, high-pressure hoses should be used in the washing of the houses, to minimise the amount of water used.
- Wash and sanitise free-range chicken houses with biodegradable soaps and disinfectants.
- Use biodegradable soaps and disinfectants in the footbath and showers.
- Use biodegradable soaps and disinfectants for washing of vehicles.
- Currently, wash water runs out of the free-range chicken houses into the surrounding

Activity: Rain.

Extent of the Impact

- environment. This will no longer be permitted and an alternative method of disposal of wash water is required.
- Further research and consulting will be required to determine which technology, design and process would be the most economically, socially and environmentally sustainable option for the disposal of wash water from washing of the free-range chicken houses.
- Recommendation: Channelling wash water into on-site evaporation ponds.

| After Mitigation   |   |
|--|---|
| Extent of the Impact   | 1 |
| Duration of the Impact   | 1 |
| Intensity of the Impact  | 1 |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact | 3 |
| Probability  | 2 |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                            | 6 |

Table 40: Environmental risk assessment: Storm water control.

| 7 1011   | Ny i Kami   |               |  |
|--|---|---------------|--|
| Aspe   | Aspect: 'Clean' rainwater running into 'dirty' areas.   |               |  |
| Natu   | Nature of Environmental Impact: Soil and surface water pollution.   |               |  |
|  | Before Mitigation   |               |  |
| Exter  | nt of the Impact  | 2             |  |
| Dura   | tion of the Impact  | 1             |  |
| Inten  | sity of the Impact  | 2             |  |
| Sign   | ificance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact  | 5             |  |
| Prob   | ability   | 3             |  |
| Envi   | Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability   |               |  |
|  | Objective of Mitigation Measures  |               |  |
| To prevent the contamination of 'clean' rain water by 'dirty' areas through control of storm water runoff. |   | vater runoff. |  |
|  | Proposed Mitigation   |               |  |
| •  | Clean storm water runoff from the surrounding environment must be channelled 'dirty' areas. These 'dirty' areas include the coal storage area, chemicals storage a waste storage areas. | -             |  |
| •  | Clean storm water should be diverted and kept in the environment surrounding the s  | ite.          |  |
| •  | Storm water measures should be inspected on a regular basis in order to ensustructures are functional and not causing soil erosion.   | ure that the  |  |
|  | Where necessary place culverts underneath road foundations.  After Mitigation   |               |  |
|  | After willigation   |               |  |

Duration of the Impact

Intensity of the Impact

Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact

Probability

1

Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability

4

# Table 41: Environmental risk assessment: Chemical substances.

Activity: Storage and handling of chemical substances including fuel, greases, vaccines, detergents etc.

Aspect: Poor management and spills of chemical substances.

Nature of Environmental Impact: Soil, surface water and groundwater pollution.

# **Before Mitigation**



1

| Extent of the Impact   | 2  |
|--|----|
| Duration of the Impact   | 2  |
| Intensity of the Impact  | 3  |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact | 7  |
| Probability  | 3  |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                            | 21 |
| Objective of Mitigation Measures   |    |

To prevent and minimise soil and water pollution as a result of poor management and accidental spills of chemical substances (fuel, greases, oils, vaccines, detergents etc.).

- Identify all chemical substances used onsite including fuel, greases, vaccines, detergents etc.
- Obtain the material safety data sheet of each of these chemical substances.
- Ensure that the material safety data sheets have sufficient information to enable the user to take the necessary measures to protect his/her health and safety and that of the environment.
- Material Safety Data Sheets for all hazardous chemical substances must be readily available on site.
- Develop and implement a dangerous goods management plan based on the material safety data sheets of all identified chemical substances and the 1995 Hazardous Chemical Substances Regulations in terms of the Occupational Health and Safety Act, 1993 (Act No. 85 of 1993).
- Keep a stock inventory register of all chemicals in the store.
- Powders must be stored above liquids.
- Proper storage of chemicals in a lockable, well ventilated building.
- Ensure adequate access control for the storage area.
- Storage areas for hazardous chemicals are to comply with standard fire safety regulations.
- Safety signage including "No Smoking", "No Naked Lights" and "Danger", and product identification signs, are to be clearly displayed in areas housing chemicals.
- Appropriate equipment to deal with emergency spill incidents is to be readily available on site.
   This includes fire extinguishers, spill kits for hydrocarbon spills, drip trays for equipment and/or machinery leaks, drums or containers for contaminated water.
- Chemicals are to be properly labelled and handled in a safety conscious manner.
- All personnel handling hazardous chemicals and hazardous materials are to be issued with the appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).
- Ensure that diesel or fuel tanks are in a bunded area with capacity of holding 110% of the total storage volume.
- The removal of only the daily-required amount of chemicals to be used from the shed.
- If refuelling on site or from drums, the ground must be protected and proper dispensing equipment is to be used i.e. hand pumps and funnels. Drums may not be tipped to dispense fuel
- Use of drip trays during filling of machinery or equipment. Drip trays should be emptied into secondary containers on a regular basis.
- Ensure that any spilled chemical cannot exit the designated storage area by constructing a berm or bump at the exit, or store chemicals in a spill tray.
- Immediately clean all spillage of fuels, lubricants and other petroleum based products.
- The contaminated material must be disposed of in accordance with the waste management procedure.
- No hazardous chemical must be discarded in the sewage or storm water system.
- Train staff on the use of chemicals in accordance with the risks as described in the material data sheets.
- Soil contaminated with hazardous chemical substances shall be treated as hazardous waste and removed from site.

| After Mitigation   |    |
|--|----|
| Extent of the Impact   | 1  |
| Duration of the Impact   | 1  |
| Intensity of the Impact  | 3  |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact | 5  |
| Probability  | 2  |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                            | 10 |

Table 42: Environmental risk assessment: Equipment and vehicle maintenance.

| A stiritur Valsiala and a quinza aut registera and a quinza                               |    |
|---|----|
| Activity: Vehicle and equipment maintenance and fuelling.                                 |    |
| Aspect: Leakage and/or spillage of fuels, greases and oils.                               |    |
| Nature of Environmental Impact: Hydrocarbon pollution of soil, surface - and groundwater. |    |
| Before Mitigation   |    |
| Extent of the Impact  | 2  |
| Duration of the Impact  | 2  |
| Intensity of the Impact   | 3  |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact      | 7  |
| Probability   | 3  |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                                 | 21 |
| Objective of Mitigation Measures  |    |

To prevent hydrocarbon pollution of soil, surface- and groundwater through spillage of fuel, grease or oil and leaking equipment and vehicles.

- Inspection and maintenance of equipment, generators and vehicles owned by Fourie's Poultry shall take place on a regular basis.
- Security shall inspect vehicles (such as those that belong to Fourie's Poultry) on entering the facility to ensure vehicles are in sound condition. This will reduce the risk of oil or diesel spillages.
- Equipment, generators and vehicles are to be repaired immediately upon developing leaks.
- Generators must be stored on a concrete floor in a bunded area.
- Drip trays shall be supplied for all repair work undertaken on machinery on site.
- Drip trays are to be utilised during daily greasing and re-fuelling of machinery and to contain incidental spills and pollutants.
- Drip trays are to be inspected daily for leaks and effectiveness and emptied when necessary. This is to be closely monitored during rain events to prevent overflow.
- Appropriate equipment to deal with emergency spill incidents is to be readily available on site.
   This includes fire extinguishers, spill kits for hydrocarbon spills, drip trays for equipment and/or machinery leaks, drums or containers for contaminated water.
- Soil contaminated with hazardous substances, fuel or oil shall be treated as hazardous waste and removed from site.
- If refueling on site or from drums, the ground must be protected and proper dispensing equipment is to be used i.e. hand pumps and funnels. Drums may not be tipped to dispense fuel.
- All liquid fuels (petrol and diesel) are to be stored in tanks or containers with lids.

| After Mitigation   |   |
|--|---|
| Extent of the Impact   | 1 |
| Duration of the Impact   | 1 |
| Intensity of the Impact  | 3 |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact | 5 |
| Probability  | 2 |



# **Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability**

10

Table 43: Environmental risk assessment: Sanitation

| Activity: Installation and use of ablution facilities.                               |    |
|--|----|
| Aspect: Unsanitary conditions on site.   |    |
| Nature of Environmental Impact: Potential surface- and/or groundwater contamination. |    |
| Before Mitigation  |    |
| Extent of the Impact   | 2  |
| Duration of the Impact   | 1  |
| Intensity of the Impact  | 2  |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact | 5  |
| Probability  | 2  |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                            | 10 |
| Objective of Mitigation Measures   |    |

Prevent soil, surface- and groundwater pollution from unsanitary conditions onsite.

- Sufficient ablution facilities shall be provided minimum of 1 toilet per 15 workers.
- The location of toilets is to be approved by the ECO prior to site establishment, but shall be located within 100m of any work point.
- Ablution facilities shall be inspected and maintained to prevent or minimise blockage and leakages.
- Ablution facilities are to be serviced weekly or more frequently if required.
- Toilets should have properly closing doors and be supplied with toilet paper.
- Awareness of the importance of proper hygiene should be created among employees.
- Ablating anywhere other than in the toilets shall not be allowed.
- A septic tank system should be considered instead of French drains.

| After Mitigation   |   |
|--|---|
| Extent of the Impact   | 1 |
| Duration of the Impact   | 1 |
| Intensity of the Impact  | 2 |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact | 4 |
| Probability  | 1 |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                            | 4 |

Table 44: Environmental risk assessment: Outbreak of disease or infection of chickens

| Activity: Rearing of free-range chickens.  |             |
|--|-------------|
| Aspect: Outbreak of poultry diseases.  |             |
| Nature of Environmental Impact: Infection and possible death of chickens, other avian        | species and |
| humans.  |             |
| Before Mitigation  |             |
| Extent of the Impact   | 3           |
| Duration of the Impact   | 2           |
| Intensity of the Impact  | 3           |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact         |             |
| Probability  | 3           |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                                    | 24          |
| Objective of Mitigation Measures   |             |
| To prevent the outbreak of a poultry disease among chickens, other avian species and humans. |             |
| Proposed Mitigation  |             |



- All chickens should originate from a closed bio-security compartment.
- All chicks should originate from disease free sources.
- Chicks from another farm should not be mixed with chickens in the flock.
- Access control to and from the premises and access to the premises should only be by prior arrangement.
- Installation of footbaths with disinfectant at all the entrances to each of the free-range chicken facilities.
- Installation of showers for all staff working on site.
- Use a sound vaccination program.
- Never permit contaminated equipment from other poultry farms in the buildings.
- Keep wild birds, rodents and predators away from the free-range chicken houses.
- Installation of rodent bait traps and flytraps.
- Clean and sanitise free-range chicken houses after each cycle with biodegradable soaps and disinfectants.
- Monitoring and auditing of processes by a contracted veterinarian or State Vet.
- Obtain a reliable diagnosis before starting treatment for a certain disease.
- Seek advice of a trained poultry diagnostician when it is apparent that a disease is present in the flock.
- When submitting a sample to a diagnostic laboratory, submit a sample of the problem flock. The sample should include two or more sick birds and freshly dead birds, if any. Take care to preserve dead specimens by cooling and preventing decomposition. It is not recommended to freeze dead birds as this may cause cell rupture and make diagnosis more difficult.
- Proper handling, storage and disposal of litter and mortalities, in demarcated areas, away from foot traffic or vehicles entering and leaving the premises.

| After Mitigation   |   |
|--|---|
| Extent of the Impact   | 2 |
| Duration of the Impact   | 1 |
| Intensity of the Impact  | 3 |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact | 6 |
| Probability  | 1 |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                            | 6 |

Table 45: Environmental risk assessment: Resource (Electricity) use during operation

| rable to Entire mental next decedement. Necestres (Electricity) and daring operation   |              |
|--|--------------|
| Activity: Usage of electricity.  |              |
| Aspect: Inefficient and redundant use of electricity.                                  |              |
| Nature of Environmental Impact: Wastage or depletion of valuable resources, such as of | coal used to |
| generate electricity.  |              |
| Before Mitigation  |              |
| Extent of the Impact   | 2            |
| Duration of the Impact   | 1            |
| Intensity of the Impact  | 3            |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact   | 6            |
| Probability  | 2            |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                              | 12           |
| Objective of Mitigation Measures   |              |
| To prevent the inefficient and redundant use of valuable resources.                    |              |
| Proposed Mitigation  |              |
| General  |              |
|  |              |

Ensure that all employees have been informed on the importance of natural resources (proper environmental training and awareness).

- Inspect operations regularly to determine areas of improvement with regards to resource consumption.
- Monitoring of resource consumption.
- Identify areas where resource consumption can be minimised.
- Set targets to try minimise resource consumption.
- Identify technologies and practices that may reduce resource consumption.
- Implementation of technologies and practices that can reduce resource consumption.
- Save electricity by turning off lights and computers when leaving the office.
- Halogen light bulbs convert approximately 80% of the energy used into heat rather than light.
   Replace spent light bulbs with energy saving CFLs (compact fluorescent lights) or newer and more efficient LEDs (light-emitting diodes).

| After Mitigation   |   |
|--|---|
| Extent of the Impact   | 1 |
| Duration of the Impact   | 1 |
| Intensity of the Impact  | 2 |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact | 4 |
| Probability  | 1 |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                            | 4 |

Table 46: Environmental risk assessment: Resource (water) use during operation.

Activity: As there is no municipal water, the farm is dependent on two boreholes for the provision of clean water for domestic use and farming activities. Water is mainly used at the free-range chicken houses for the rearing of chickens and to wash the houses.

Aspect: Inefficient and redundant use of water.

Nature of Environmental Impact: Each chicken uses approximately 4.9 litres of water per production cycle. Currently approximately 4924.5m³ of water is used by the one existing cluster located on the Roodekraal free-range chicken farm per annum for poultry drinking water (Calculated as: 1 clusters x 10 houses x 15 000 chickens/house/cycle x 6.7 cycles/annum x 4.9liters/chicken x 1m³/1 000liters). Should the proposed cluster be constructed, an additional 4924.5m³ of water will be used, resulting in a combined 9 849m³ being used on Portion 2 of the Roodekraal free-range chicken farm.

Approximately 1 500 litres of water is used to wash one free-range chicken house. This is approximately  $100.5\text{m}^3$  of water per annum to clean the existing free-range chickencluster, located on Portion 2 of the Roodekraal farm (Calculated as: 1 clusters x 10 houses x 6.7 cycles/annum x 1 500liters/house x  $1\text{m}^3/1$  000liters). Should the proposed cluster be constructed,  $201\text{m}^3$  of wash water will therefore be used per annum between the two onsite free-range chicken house clusters.

The total water usage on Portion 2 of the Roodekraal free-range chicken farm, should the proposed cluster be approved and constructed, would be approximately 10 050m<sup>3</sup> per annum. This is less than the 18 645.8475m<sup>3</sup> of groundwater that may be abstracted on this property.

At each cluster abstracted groundwater is stored in five 5 000 litre JoJo tanks. If the proposed expansion was to take place Portion 2 of the Roodekraal free-range chicken farm will have a water storage capacity of 50 000 liters (50m³).

Wastage and excessive use of groundwater may lead to depletion of the valuable resource.

| Before Mitigation  |   |
|--|---|
| Extent of the Impact   | 2 |
| Duration of the Impact   | 1 |
| Intensity of the Impact  | 3 |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact | 6 |

| Probability   | 2  |
|---|----|
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability           | 12 |
| Objective of Mitigation Measures                                    |    |
| To prevent the inefficient and redundant use of valuable resources. |    |
| Proposed Mitigation   |    |

#### General

- Ensure that all employees have been informed on the importance of natural resources (proper environmental training and awareness).
- Regular site inspection by supervisors.
- Inspect operations regularly to determine areas of improvement with regards to resource consumption.
- Regular maintenance and inspection of equipment such as hose pipes, to prevent leaks.
- Monitoring of resource consumption.
- Identify areas where resource consumption can be minimised.
- Set targets to try minimise resource consumption.
- Identify technologies and practices that may reduce resource consumption.
- Implementation of technologies and practices that can reduce resource consumption.
- Use high pressure hoses to clean the free-range chicken houses.
- Regular inspection and maintenance of all boreholes, JoJo tanks, toilets, water pipes and taps.
- Leaking JoJo tanks, taps, toilets and pipes must immediately be repaired.
- Running water taps and pipes may not be left unattended.
- Each time you flush the toilets approximately 20 litres of water is used, therefore use the toilets accordingly.
- All pipe, hose and tap connections are to be fitted with correct and appropriate plumbing fittings.

# Water Use Licensing:

- No Water Use License is not required for the abstraction of groundwater.
- As more than 10m<sup>3</sup> of groundwater will be abstracted on any given day, a registration of this water use is required.
- The current and anticipated future storage capacities do not require a registration or license because less than 10 000m<sup>3</sup> of water will be stored on the property (DWAF, 2004).

| After Mitigation   |   |
|--|---|
| Extent of the Impact   | 1 |
| Duration of the Impact   | 1 |
| Intensity of the Impact  | 2 |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact | 4 |
| Probability  | 1 |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                            | 4 |

Table 47: Environmental risk assessment: Alien invasive vegetation

| Activity: Growth of vegetation.   |   |
|---|---|
| Aspect: Infestation of alien invasive vegetation.                                     |   |
| Nature of Environmental Impact: Loss of indigenous habitat and excessive water usage. |   |
| Before Mitigation   |   |
| Extent of the Impact  | 2 |
| Duration of the Impact  | 1 |
| Intensity of the Impact   | 2 |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact  | 5 |



| Probability   | 2                         |
|---|---------------------------|
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                     | 10                        |
| Objective of Mitigation Measures  |                           |
| To control alien invasive plant species.                                      |                           |
| Proposed Mitigation   |                           |
| Ensure all alien invasive plants are identified on the site.                  |                           |
| • Ensure an eradication plan for the removal of the alien invasive vegetation | on is developed.          |
| • Ensure all alien invasive vegetation is removed from the site in accorda    | nce with the eradication  |
| plan.   |                           |
| Alien invasive vegetation will be eradicated and controlled by mar            | ual removal, chemical     |
| application and/or biological control. The regulations in terms of the Cor    | servation of Agricultural |
| Resource Act, 1983 apply.   |                           |
| After Mitigation  |                           |
| Extent of the Impact  | 1                         |
| Duration of the Impact  | 1                         |
| Intensity of the Impact   | 1                         |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity    | of Impact 3               |
| Probability   | 1                         |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                     | 3                         |

# 7.5 Post-Construction- and Concurrent Rehabilitation Phase

Table 48: Environmental risk assessment: Construction site decommissioning

| Activity: Decon | missionina | of constru | action site. |
|-----------------|------------|------------|--------------|
|-----------------|------------|------------|--------------|

Aspect: Removal of structures and infrastructure (such as demarcation fencing, signage, equipment, etc.).

Nature of Environmental Impact: Environmental degradation as a result of inapt removal of structures and infrastructure.

| Before Mitigation  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| Extent of the Impact   | 2 |  |
| Duration of the Impact   | 1 |  |
| Intensity of the Impact  | 1 |  |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact |   |  |
| Probability  | 2 |  |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                            |   |  |
| Objective of Mitigation Measures   |   |  |

To ensure decommissioning of the construction area occurs with minimal environmental harm.

# **Proposed Mitigation**

- The construction area must be rehabilitated as soon as construction ceases.
- Remove all construction equipment, storage containers, signage, fencing etc. from site. No
  unauthorised entry, stockpiling, dumping or storage of equipment outside the site boundary is
  permitted.
- Take care to avoid leaks and spills during removal of all temporary fuel- and hazardous chemical- stores.
- Take care to avoid leaks and spills during the removal of all temporary waste storage facilities.
- Take care to avoid leaks and spills during the removal of all temporary sanitary infrastructures.
- Access roads used during the construction phase should be returned to a condition no worse than before the construction phase.
- All building rubble and remaining rock should be disposed of at a certified waste disposal site.

# **After Mitigation**



| Extent of the Impact   | 1 |
|--|---|
| Duration of the Impact   | 1 |
| Intensity of the Impact  | 1 |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact |   |
| Probability  | 1 |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                            |   |

Table 49: Environmental risk assessment: Shaping

| Activity: Shaping.   |              |  |
|--|--------------|--|
| Aspect: Unauthorised backfilling, poor sloping and deposition of subsoil above top backfilling.  | osoil during |  |
| Nature of Environmental Impact: Damage to infrastructure (boreholes), degradation of topo  | ography and  |  |
| general appearance and loss of a valuable resource (topsoil).  |              |  |
| Before Mitigation  |              |  |
| Extent of the Impact   | 2            |  |
| Duration of the Impact   | 1            |  |
| Intensity of the Impact  | 2            |  |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact   | 5            |  |
| Probability  | 2<br>10      |  |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability  |              |  |
| Objective of Mitigation Measures   |              |  |
| To prevent the degradation of the natural topography and general appearance and to prevent the loss of topsoil.  |              |  |
| Proposed Mitigation  |              |  |
| Backfilling of rock and inert building rubble may only occur subject to approval by the ECO.   |              |  |
| No excavated material or stockpiles shall be left on site and all material remaining after backfilling shall be removed or smoothed over to blend in with the surrounding landscape. |              |  |
| Backfilled areas shall be monitored and depressions filled after the backfill settles.   |              |  |
| <ul> <li>New slopes should mimic the natural slopes and topography.</li> </ul>   |              |  |
| When backfilling, first deposit subsoil, followed by topsoil and compact for the best results.   |              |  |
| After Mitigation   |              |  |
| Extent of the Impact   | 1            |  |
| Duration of the Impact   | 1            |  |
| Intensity of the Impact  |              |  |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact   |              |  |
| Probability  |              |  |

Table 50: Environmental risk assessment: Topsoil replacement

**Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability** 

| Activity: Replacement of topsoil.  |   |
|--|---|
| Aspect: Poor topsoil replacement and topsoil exposed to the elements.                |   |
| Nature of Environmental Impact: Loss of a valuable resource (topsoil).               |   |
| Before Mitigation  |   |
| Extent of the Impact   | 1 |
| Duration of the Impact   | 2 |
| Intensity of the Impact  |   |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact |   |
| Probability  |   |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                            |   |



# **Objective of Mitigation Measures**

To prevent loss of topsoil.

# **Proposed Mitigation**

- Replace topsoil concurrent with construction, whenever possible.
- Cordon off areas under rehabilitation using danger tape. If necessary, these areas should be fenced off to prevent vehicular, pedestrian and livestock access.
- Aim to replace stockpiled topsoil to its original depth.
- Topsoil should be returned to the same area from where it was stripped.
- If there is not enough topsoil available from a particular soil zone, topsoil of a similar quality may be used to replace it. The suitability of substitute topsoil will be determined by a soil analysis and approved by the ECO.
- Sample soil to a depth of 200mm in all areas allocated for reintroduction of indigenous vegetation. Have samples analysed to determine the type of fertiliser and rate at which it should be applied.
- Compacted soil should be ripped to ensure effective re-vegetation.
- Work necessary additives, as indicated by the soil analysis, into the soil.

| After Mitigation   |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| Extent of the Impact   | 1 |  |
| Duration of the Impact   | 2 |  |
| Intensity of the Impact  | 2 |  |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact |   |  |
| Probability  | 1 |  |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                            |   |  |

Table 51: Environmental risk assessment: Vegetation establishment

| Activity: Establishment of vegetation.   |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| Aspect: No topsoil available, on site, for rehabilitation.   |   |  |
| Nature of Environmental Impact: Poor vegetation establishment, resulting in exposure of topsoil to the |   |  |
| elements and as a result degradation and erosion of a valuable resource (topsoil).                     |   |  |
| Before Mitigation  |   |  |
| Extent of the Impact   | 1 |  |
| Duration of the Impact   |   |  |
| Intensity of the Impact  |   |  |
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact                   |   |  |
| Probability  | 2 |  |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability  |   |  |

Objective of Mitigation Measures

To prevent the loss of a valuable resource (topsoil) and ensure establishment of indigenous vegetation where necessary.

- Re-vegetation by indigenous vegetation.
- If areas show no specified vegetation growth within three months, areas shall receive additional topsoil, ripped to a depth of 100mm and re-planted.
- Cleared indigenous vegetation can be stockpiled for possible reuse in later rehabilitation or landscaping, or as a brush pack for erosion prevention.
- Soil stabilising measures could include rotovating in straw bales (at a rate of 1 bale/20m²), applying mulching or brush packing, or creating windbreaks using brush or bales.

| After Mitigation       |   |
|------------------------|---|
| Extent of the Impact   | 1 |
| Duration of the Impact | 2 |

| Intensity of the Impact  | 2 |
|--|---|
| Significance of Impact = Extent of Impact + Duration of Impact + Intensity of Impact | 5 |
| Probability  | 1 |
| Environmental Risk = Significance of Impact X Probability                            | 5 |

# 7.6 Closure Phase

The viability of the expansion of the free-range chicken farm is based on the increased demand for chicken in South Africa. This is driven by an ever increasing population. It is therefore highly unlikely that the facility will be decommissioned and closed in the foreseeable future. However, if closure is considered, an extensive closure and rehabilitation plan will be drafted and sent to the Department prior to the event.

# 7.7 Cumulative Impacts

Cumulative impacts refer to the situation where an activity may in itself not have a significant impact, but may become significant when added to the existing and potential impacts from similar or different activities in the area.

As the proposed free-range chicken cluster will be situated close to the three existing clusters, the following cumulative impacts will arise:

- The proposed free-range chicken cluster will add to the noise and dust generated by the other three clusters;
- The proposed free-range chicken cluster will add to the amount of groundwater that is currently used on the farm:
- The proposed free-range chicken cluster will increase the number of vehicles that currently travel to and from the farm; and
- The proposed free-range chicken cluster will increase the amount of atmospheric pollution due to the burning of coal in the exothermic hot water generators and ammonia emissions.

# 7.8 Assumptions, gaps in knowledge and uncertainties

The following assumptions were made during the basic assessment:

- The free-range chicken cluster will be constructed as planned and designed by the engineers;
- The free-range chicken cluster will be operated in a responsible manner; and
- All mitigation measures proposed in the draft EMP (Appendix F) will be implemented by the applicant to ensure that the environmental impacts are kept to a minimum.



# 8. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

# 8.1 Summary of key findings

To meet the ever increasing demand for chicken in South Africa, the client is proposing to expand their Roodekraal free-range chicken farm through the addition of a fourth house cluster (ten free-range chicken houses). Only one site was identified as a viable option for the development of the proposed free-range chicken cluster.

Environmental impacts will occur as a result of the construction and operational phase of the project. While the environmental impacts can be mitigated to a degree, the impacts will still add to the existing impacts of the three current free-range chicken clusters present on the farm.

# 8.2 Comparative assessment of positive and negative implications of the proposed activity and alternatives

The table below compares the main positive and negative implications of the proposed free-range chicken cluster at the site to those of the no-go option (current situation).

Table 52: Comparison of the positive and negative implications of the proposed activity and alternative option

| anomative option |  |  |
|------------------|--|--|
|                  | Proposed site  | No-go option (current situation)   |
| Positive impacts | <ul> <li>Creation of additional employment opportunities during the construction and operational phases of the project.</li> <li>Stimulation of the local and regional economy.</li> <li>Continual management of alien invasive vegetation.</li> <li>Sustainable utilisation of land towards increased food security in South Africa.</li> </ul> | No disturbance of the vegetation on site.  |
| Negative impacts | <ul> <li>Possible soil-, surface water- and/or groundwater- contamination.</li> <li>Possible generation of dust and noise.</li> </ul>  | <ul> <li>No creation of additional employment opportunities during the construction and operational phases of the project.</li> <li>No local and regional economic benefits.</li> <li>No increase in the food security of South Africa.</li> </ul> |

The additional free-range chicken cluster will have a positive impact in terms of finances for the applicant and will also result in job creation and the stimulation of the local and regional economy. The rearing of free range chickens at the proposed free-range chicken cluster will also assist in creating a more sustainable food supply for people in South Africa. The positive social impacts will outweigh the negative environmental impacts, assuming that proposed mitigation measures are implemented. The No-Go option would entail no further development of the site (i.e. the continued operation of the three existing free-range chicken clusters).



# 9. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

As indicated in the section 6.2.2, the construction of the free-range chicken cluster at the proposed site is favourable. Assuming that the free-range chicken cluster will be constructed at the proposed site, the project can be expected to have the following overall impacts:

- Design and planning phase: Medium significance that can be reduced to Low significance though the implementation of mitigation measures;
- Construction phase: Low High significance that can be reduced to Low Medium significance though the implementation of simple and effective mitigation measures;
- Operational phase: Low High significance that can be reduced to Low significance though the implementation of simple and effective mitigation measures; and
- Post-Construction and Concurrent Rehabilitation phase: Low Medium significance that can
  be reduced to Low significance though the implementation of simple and effective mitigation
  measures.

The negative environmental impacts can be mitigated to a certain degree and the positive social and economic impacts outweigh the potential negative environmental impacts.

Based on the outcomes of the risk assessments conducted as part of the basic assessment, coupled with the recommendations made by the EAP and specialists, the following recommendations are made:

- 1) The project should be approved and allowed to proceed on the proposed site.
- 2) The mitigation measures proposed above that have also been incorporated into the EMP in more detail, must be implemented during all phases of the project.
- 3) A communications pathway must be established that would allow the designated ECO to accept and deal with stakeholder complaints.
- 4) Mitigation measures proposed above should be incorporated as far as possible into the operational plan for the development.
- 5) Strict monitoring and enforcement of requirements of the EMP must be undertaken to ensure that contractors and operators adhere to these requirements.

