

July 9, 2019

Attention: Registered Interested and Affected Party

**NOTIFICATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION ISSUANCE FOR THE FOLLOWING
PROJECT: EXPANSION OF THE FESTIVE KAALFONTEIN HATCHERY
EIA REFERENCE NUMBER: GAUT 002/18-19/E0221**

This letter serves to inform you, as a registered Interested and Affected Party (I&AP), that the Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (the Department) has decided to grant Festive – A Division of Astral Operations Limited (the applicant) with an Environmental Authorisation for their “Expansion of the Festive Kaalfontein Hatchery” and its associated activities. The Department has authorised these activities by virtue of the powers delegated to it by the MEC in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998), as amended, and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations of 4 December 2014, as amended on 7 April 2017. The Department’s decision was signed on the 1st of July 2019 and issued on the 2nd of July 2019. The Environmental Authorisation and Reasons for the decision (Annexure 1) are attached to this letter.

In terms of Regulation 4(2) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations of 4 December 2014, as amended on 7 April 2017, the applicant must, in writing and within 14 days of the date of the decision on the Environmental Authorisation application, ensure that all registered I&APs are provided with access to the decision and the reasons for such decision; and that the attention of all registered I&APs is drawn to the fact that an appeal may be lodged against the decision in terms of the National Appeal Regulations, 2014. Labesh (Pty) Ltd is facilitating this process on behalf of the applicant.

In terms of Chapter 2 of the National Appeal Regulations, 2014, an appeal may be lodged against the decision by the Department to grant an Environmental Authorisation. An appellant must submit the appeal to the Appeal Administrator, and a copy of the appeal to the applicant (Festive – A Division of Astral Operations Limited), any registered I&AP and any organ of state with interest in the matter within **20 days** from the date that the notification of the decision for an application for an Environmental Authorisation was sent to the registered I&APs by the applicant (via the EAP). The deadline for submission of appeals is the **29th of July 2019**.

An appeal submission must be-

- (a) submitted **in writing** on the form (Appeal Form) obtainable from the Appeal Administrator; and
- (b) accompanied by-
 - (i) a statement setting out the grounds of appeal;
 - (ii) supporting documentation which is referred to in the appeal submission; and
 - (iii) a statement, including supporting documentation, by the appellant to confirm compliance with regulation 4(1) of the National Appeal Regulations.

Any appeals should be addressed to the **Appeals Administrator of the Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development** and submitted by any of the following means:

By post: P. O. Box 8769, Johannesburg, 2000

Hand delivery to: 56 Eloff Street, Umnotho House, 23rd Floor, Johannesburg, 2000

Fax: 011 240 3158/2700

Email: appeals@gauteng.gov.za

The appeal form as well as any further information regarding the appeals process can be sought from the Appeal Administrator, Ms. Tsholofelo Mere, at the contact details provided below:



Labesh
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Postnet Box 469, Private Bag X504, Sinoville, 0129

Tel: 087 230 8462

Cell: 082 789 6525

Email: lourens@labesh.co.za

Ms. Tsholofelo Mere

Tel: (011) 240 3204

Email: tsholofelo.mere@gauteng.gov.za

The appeal form is also obtainable from the Department's website: www.gdard.gpg.gov.za

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require any additional information or if any of the information provided in this letter is unclear.

Environmental Assessment Practitioner for the project	Labesh (Pty) Ltd - Lourens de Villiers Tel: 082 789 6525 Email: admin@labesh.co.za Fax to Email: 086 552 6837 Postal Address: PostNet Box #469, Private Bag X504, Sinoville, 0129
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Regards

Lourens de Villiers

Managing Director and Environmental Assessment Practitioner



GAUTENG PROVINCE
AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Reference: GAUT 002/18-19/E0221
Enquiries: Mokutu Nketu
Tel: +27 (0)11 240 3389
Mokutu.Nketu2@gauteng.gov.za

Festive-A Division of Astral Operations Limited
P. O. Box 237
OLIFANTSFONTEIN
1665

Email: Nico.DeConing@earlybirdfarm.com

By Registered Mail

Dear Mr. Nico De Coning,

ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION GRANTED: THE PROPOSED EXPANSION OF THE FESTIVE KAALFONTEIN HATCHERY ON THE REMAINING EXTENT OF PORTION 7 OF THE FARM HARTEBEESTFONTEIN 17 IR, CITY OF EKURHULENI

Regarding the above-mentioned application, please be advised that the Department has decided to grant Environmental Authorisation (EA). The EA and reasons for the decisions are attached herewith.

In terms of Regulation 4 (2) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, you must notify all registered interested and affected parties, in writing, and within 14 days of the date of this letter, of the Department's decision in respect of your application as well as the provisions regarding the making of appeals.

Your attention is drawn to Chapter 2 of the National Appeals Regulations, 2014 which regulates the appeal process. Should you wish to appeal any aspect of the decision, you must within 20 days of the date of the notification of the decision submit your appeal, including supporting documents, to the appeal administrator by any of the following means:

Postal Address:

The Appeals Administrator
Department of Agriculture and Rural Development
P.O. Box 8769
Johannesburg
2000

Physical Address

The Appeals Administrator
Department of Agriculture and Rural Development
56 Eloff Street, Umnotho House, 23rd Floor
Johannesburg
2000

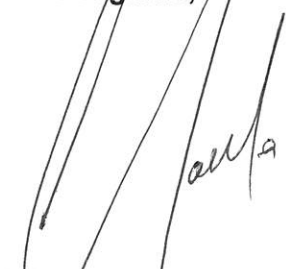
Fax No: 011 240 3158/2700

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Office of the HOD
02 JUL 2019
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Email Address: appeals@gauteng.gov.za

Your appeal must be submitted in the prescribed appeal form obtainable from the appeal administrator, Ms. Tsholofelo Mere, at telephone number 011 240 3204 or email address tsholofelo.mere@gauteng.gov.za. The appeal form is also available from our website: www.gdard.gpg.gov.za. Should you have any queries or require additional information regarding the appeal process, you can contact the appeal administrator on any of the mentioned contact details.

Kind regards,



MS. MATILDA GASELA
HEAD OF DEPARTMENT: AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

DATE: 01 July 2019

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GAUTENG PROVINCE
 AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT
 REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION

Reference Number:	GAUT 002/18-19/E0221	
Holder of Authorisation:	Festive-A Division of Astral Operations Limited	
Location of Activity / Activities:	Remaining Extent of Portion 7 of the farm Hartebeestfontein 17 IR	
Coordinates:	Latitude (S)	Longitude (E)
	26° 01' 35.96"S	28° 17' 22.64"E

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1. Decision

The Department is satisfied, based on the information available to it and subject to compliance with the conditions of this Environmental Authorisation (EA), that the applicant should be authorised to undertake the activities specified below:

2. Activities Authorised

Under the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (as amended) and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, the Department hereby authorises-

Festive-A Division of Astral Operations Limited

with the following contact details:

P. O. Box 237
OLIFANTSFONTEIN
1665

Tel No.: 011 972 0004

Email: Nico.DeConing@earlybirdfarm.com

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02 JUL 2019
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to undertake the activities listed as Activity 43 of Listing Notice 1 and Activity 2 and 4 of Listing Notice 3 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 for the proposed expansion of the Festive Kaalfontein Hatchery on the remaining extent of Portion 7 of the farm Hartebeestfontein 17 IR which falls within the jurisdiction of City of Ekurhuleni.

The Granting of this EA is subject to the conditions set out below:

3. Specific Conditions

- 3.1 The Environmental Authorisation is granted for the proposed alternative 1 ("the proposal") for the **C date 01 November 2017** type development for the construction of the following:
- 3.1.1 Three new setter rooms, three new hatcher rooms and new 18 strand electric fence,
 - 3.1.2 Additional parking bays as well as a new truck parking bay,
 - 3.1.3 Increase footprint of the hatchery buildings from 0.7437 hectares to 1 hectare,
 - 3.1.4 Increase internal roads from 8 224m² to 10 110m² as well as two concrete turning circles that will be incorporated into the internal roads (north and south of the hatchery),
 - 3.1.5 Housing outside will be increased from 640m² to 860m²,
 - 3.1.6 Construct a new 225kL sewer pump station,
 - 3.1.7 Amendment of the existing sewer rising main from 700m (with a 50-80mm pipe) to 700m (with 2 x new HDPE 75mm pipes),
 - 3.1.8 Onsite reservoirs will be increase from 180kL to 589kL through the construction of a new 409kL circular zinalume steel reservoir,
 - 3.1.9 Construct a transit facility of 6000m²,
 - 3.1.10 Extension of the existing ablution facilities,
 - 3.1.11 Construction of two new spray races (120m²) and a guard house,
 - 3.1.12 Construction of a wash bay and new interlocking paved access roads from the existing access road into the northern and southern parts of the hatchery facility.
- 3.2 All other necessary licenses/permits must be obtained by the applicant from relevant authorities before the commencement of the activities on the site.
- 3.3 The application must ensure that the new systems to be used for upgrades reduces odour at the facility.

- 3.4 If the storage area has the capacity to store 100m³ of general waste at one time, the facility must be registered with the Department (Pollution and Waste Management Directorate) in terms of the National Norms and Standards for storage of general waste.
- 3.5 The applicant must ensure that infectious chicken carcasses are disposed of at a licensed hazardous waste landfill site.
- 3.6 Green building techniques must be applied to the construction process to make use of natural light and heat and thus reduce energy use and emissions to the atmosphere.
- 3.7 Rainwater harvesting must be incorporated into the development.
- 3.8 The development must take place outside the wetland and its protective 87m buffer zone, beginning from the outer edge of the wetland temporary zone.
- 3.9 The construction area must be clearly demarcated before any construction activities takes place and signage must be displayed during the construction phase to inform the public about potential dangerous conditions on site.
- 3.10 The construction camp-site and/or storage area for construction material and machinery must be kept outside watercourse and its 32m buffer.
- 3.11 Site clearing must be strictly limited to the construction area, and no damage to sensitive environmental features is permitted.
- 3.12 Waste must be stored, handled and disposed of or recycled in line with the "3 Rs"; Reuse, Reduce and Reuse principles of waste management. Appropriate waste bins must be provided for the entire development.
- 3.13 If any subsurface archaeological material, bones or fossils are discovered, construction must be stopped immediately, and a qualified archaeologist must be contacted to assess the finds and also contact the Gauteng Provincial Heritage resources Agency.

4. Management of the Activities

The Environmental Management Programme ("EMPr") submitted as part of the application for EA is also authorised in terms of the EA and must be implemented. In addition to the submitted EMPr, the following must be implemented and be considered part of the subject EMPr:

- 4.1 Compliance with the approved EMPr is considered an extension to the conditions of this Environmental Authorisation.
- 4.2 The contents of the EMPr and its objectives must be made known to all contractors, subcontractors, agents and other people working on the site
- 4.3 Proper waste handling facilities must be provided on the construction site and emptied at prescribed intervals.
- 4.4 All waste streams to be generated during construction and operational phase must be managed in accordance with the hierarchy of waste management principles and disposal at an authorised landfill site must be the last option. Proof of disposal of waste must be kept on site and made available to the Department upon request.
- 4.5 The surface storm water management plan must be based on Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS) Principles and consider source, local and regional controls.

5. Biosecurity Measures

- 5.1 Fence with a height of 2.4m must be erected around the facility to create a biologically controlled area;
- 5.2 Personnel must not enter Festive-A Division of Astral Operations Limited facility for 48 hours if they have visited a farm with livestock or been in contact with someone who has other avian species or chickens;
- 5.3 A wheel washing system must be installed at the main entrance of the farm to disinfect vehicles before entering and leaving the facility;
- 5.4 Personnel must use rubber boots that have been disinfected or plastic disposable boots while working on the chicken farm, these must also be provided to visitors entering the farm;

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02 JUL 2019
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- 5.5 Showering before going inside, and immediately after going outside of the chicken farm must always be practiced;
- 5.6 Personal protective equipment must be used during the operational phase, this includes eye protection or respiratory protection (dust masks) in case of airborne pathogens that could be mechanically spread by mucous membrane contamination;
- 5.7 Pests and vermin must be controlled utilizing services of a pest-control company registered with the Department of Agriculture and other relevant bodies; or utilize in-house trained personnel. Pesticides must be inaccessible to wild birds; and bait boxes should be secure;
- 5.8 Fly control measures must be installed to prevent the ingress of flies in the poultry houses. Buildings should be made secure against wild birds. Feed spillages should be removed immediately to avoid the attraction of vermin and wild birds.
- 5.9 Mortality should be picked up daily and disposed to the licensed municipal landfill site. Stock-piling mortality and allowing carcasses to decompose before disposal is not allowed as this increases the risk of spreading disease via rodents and insects;
- 5.10 Festive-A Division of Astral Operations Limited must clean and disinfect all equipment going into and moving between grower pens;
- 5.11 It is recommended that trucks delivering feed to the poultry farm not to enter the facility. The bins for delivery of feed must be placed against the fence so that feed can be off-loaded into the bins without the trucks entering the facility to prevent possible spread of diseases. Where it is necessary that the trucks enter the facility, they must be washed before going in and going out;
- 5.12 Festive-A Division of Astral Operations Limited must register with the Local State Veterinary and Health Inspector before the operation of the facility;
- 5.13 Festive-A Division of Astral Operations Limited must monitor levels of ammonia, methane, carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide and hydrogen sulphide in chicken farm every six months to ensure it does not affect the health of chickens and workers;
- 5.14 Festive-A Division of Astral Operations Limited must train all staff in the appropriate emergency procedures;
- 5.15 Festive-A Division of Astral Operations Limited must provide onsite treatment in case of emergency to personnel and/or the public;
- 5.16 Health and safety signs must be placed at the appropriate places to indicate unauthorised entry areas and quarantine areas that can only be accessed by permitted personnel only;
- 5.17 In case of disease outbreaks and high mortalities of chicken, the nearest Local State Veterinary and Health Inspector must be contacted immediately, dead chicken must then be removed from the poultry house daily, or twice daily if mortality is high, once collected, they must be moved to an authorised and / or permitted waste treatment/processing facility preferably, off farm, for processing either to a rendering plant or suitable area for burial, or subsequent collection by a contractor;
- 5.18 If dead chickens are not disposed of daily; they must be stored in a designated freezer on the farm. The freezer should have sufficient capacity to adequately handle 1 (one) to 3 (three) days of normal breeder mortality, and should not be used for any other purpose; and
- 5.19 A copy of an agreement letter with the nearest rendering plant and / or a contracted company contracted to remove, transport and dispose dead stock must also be submitted to this Department before commencement of operations.

6. Monitoring and Reporting

- 6.1 An independent Environmental Control Officer (ECO) must be appointed to oversee the development activities and provide advice in terms of compliance with the conditions of this authorisation. An Environmental Control Officer (ECO) must submit compliance report at least once during preparation and construction phase of the activity.

Office of the HOD

02 JUL 2019

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7. General Conditions

- 7.1 The conditions of this EA are binding on the holder of the EA ("The Holder"), including any person acting on his or her behalf, including but not limited to an agent, sub-contractor, employee or person rendering a service to the holder of the EA.
- 7.2 The activities authorised may only be carried out at the property or site indicated in this EA.
- 7.3 The activity / activities must commence within a period of 10 years from the date of issue of this EA. If commencement of the activities does not occur within that period, the EA lapses and a new application for EA must be made for the activity or activities to be undertaken.
- 7.4 Any changes to, or deviation from, the activity or activities description set out in this EA must follow the appropriate amendment process described in the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, and be approved, in writing, by the Department before such changes or deviation are effected. In assessing whether to approve such changes or not, the Department may request such information as it deems necessary to evaluate the significance and impacts of such changes or deviations and it may be necessary for the holder of EA to apply for further authorisations in terms of the Regulations.
- 7.5 Where any of the applicant's contact details changes, including the name of the holder of the EA, the physical or postal address and/or telephonic details, the applicant must follow the relevant amendment process as prescribed in the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, by submitting an amendment application to the Department for consideration and decision making as soon as the new details become known to the applicant.
- 7.6 This EA does not negate the holder's responsibility to comply with any other statutory requirements that may be applicable to the undertaking of the activities.
- 7.7 All activities on the site must comply with the local authority's By-Laws.
- 7.8 This EA and EMPr must be kept at the property or site where the activity or activities will be undertaken. The documents must be produced to any authorised official of the Department who requests to inspect them and must also be made available for inspection by any employee or agent of the holder of the EA who works or undertakes work at the property.
- 7.9 Non-compliance with a condition of this EA may result in criminal prosecution or other actions provided for in the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (as amended) and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations.
- 7.10 If the Department has reason to believe that the EA was obtained through, fraud, non-disclosure of material information or misrepresentation of a material fact, the Department may, in writing, suspend or partially suspend, with immediate effect, the EA and direct the holder of such EA forthwith to cease any activities that have been commenced with or to refrain from commencing any activity, pending a decision to withdraw the EA.

Date of the Environmental Authorisation:

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02 JUL 2019
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ANNEXURE 1: REASON FOR DECISION

1. Background

The applicant, Festive -A Division of Astral Operations Limited, applied for EA to undertake the activity or activities listed as Activity 43 of Listing Notice 1 and Activity 2 and 4 of Listing Notice 3 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, promulgated in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, (Act No. 107 of 1998) (as amended) for the proposed expansion of the Festive Kaalfontein Hatchery on the remaining extent of Portion 7 of the farm Hartebeestfontein 17 IR, which falls within the jurisdiction of the City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality.

The applicant appointed Labesh to undertake Basic Assessment process.

2. Information Considered in Making the Decision

In reaching its decision, the Department took, inter alia, the following into consideration:

- 2.1 The information contained in the Basic Assessment Report received by the Department on 31 May 2019 including:
 - 2.1.1 Geotechnical and Dolomite Stability Investigation Report compiled by Johann van der Merwe (Pty) LTD dated 12 December 2018.
 - 2.1.2 Palaeontological Impact Assessment compiled by Anton Pelsler Archaeological Consulting dated 15 May 2019;
 - 2.1.3 Risk Assessment compiled by Limosella Consulting dated April 2019;
- 2.2 The comments received from Interested and Affected Parties as included in the Basic Assessment Report.
- 2.3 The relevant information contained in the Departmental information base including the Geographical Information System (GIS), Gauteng Conservation Plan Version 3.3 and the Gauteng Provincial Environmental Management Framework (GPEMF), 2015.
- 2.4 The objectives and requirements of relevant legislation, policies and guidelines, including Section 2 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (as amended).
- 2.5 The findings of the site inspection undertaken by Livhuwani Demana, the official of the Department on 06 May 2019.

3. Key Factors Considered in Making the Decision

All information presented to the Department was taken into account in the Department's consideration of the application. A summary of the issues which, in the Department's view, were of the most significance is set out below.

- 3.1 Public participation process undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the regulation;
- 3.2 Sensitive environmental features associated with the site;
- 3.3 Compatibility of the proposed development with the surrounding land uses;
- 3.4 The Gauteng Provincial Environmental Management Framework 2015.

4. Findings

After consideration of the information and factors listed above, the Department made the following findings:

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02 JUL 2019
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- 4.1 Public participation was done according to the requirements of 2014 EIA Regulations, as the proof of newspaper advert was attached in the final Basic Assessment report and site notices were put on strategic positions on the proposed site.
- 4.2 Part of the proposed site is environmental sensitive however; the development will take place in the lowest sensitive area.
- 4.3 The proposed development is compatible with the surround land use as it is the expansion of the existing development.
- 4.4 According to GPEMF 2015, the proposed site falls within Environmental Management Zone 3 and Zone 4. Zone 3 Special control zones are sensitive areas outside the urban development zone. These areas are sensitive to development activities and in several cases also have specific values that need to be protected, and Zone 4 which is dominated by agricultural uses outside the urban development zone.

In view of the above, the Department is satisfied that, subject to compliance with the conditions contained in this EA, the activities will not conflict with the general objectives of integrated environmental management laid down in the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (as amended) and that any potentially detrimental environmental impacts resulting from the proposed activities can be mitigated to acceptable levels. The Environmental Authorisation is accordingly granted.

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