

**MOTIVATION FOR EXCLUSION OF SPECIALIST STUDIES**

**PROPOSED UPGRADING OF CHICKEN HOUSES AND INSTALLATION OF AN  
INCINERATOR ON REMAINING PORTION 147/8/9 FARM HARTEBEEFONTEIN  
472 IN HEKPOORT, GAUTENG PROVINCE**

**JULY, 2020**

**Prepared for:**



Today's Impact | Tomorrow's Legacy

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## 1 INTRODUCTION

Quantum Foods Holdings T/A Nulaid Eggs proposes to refurbish and upgrade ten existing layer houses on the property in to new best-practice environmental and technological layer houses. The proposed upgrade is to ensure economic growth and increase in supply of eggs. The proposed activity will include the following infrastructures:

- 10 layer houses (
- 900 MW Incinerator
- Access roads
- Evaporation ponds
- Storage facility
- Offices
- Manager' House
- Laundry room
- Showers.

The proposed activity to be undertaken (together with the infrastructure to be provided) The proposed project constitutes the following listed activities in terms of the NEMA EIA Regulation of 2014 as amended on the 7<sup>th</sup> April 2017.

### **Government Notice 327 of 2017 as amended**

- **Activity 5:** The development and related operation of facilities or infrastructure for the concentration of (ii) more than 5 000 poultry per facility situated outside an urban area, excluding chicks younger than 20 days.
- **Activity 40(ii):** The expansion and related operation of facilities for the concentration of poultry, excluding chicks younger than 20 days, where the capacity of the facility will be increased by (ii) more than 5 000 poultry per facility situated outside an urban area
- **Activity 27:** The clearance of an area of 1 hectare or more, but less than 20 hectares of indigenous vegetation, except where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for- i) the undertaking of a linear activity; or ii) maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan

### **Government Notice 327 of 2017 as amended**

- **Activity 6 :** The development of facilities or infrastructure for any process or activity which requires a permit or license or an amended permit or license in terms of national or provincial legislation governing the generation or release of emissions, pollution or effluent.

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The proposed incinerator will trigger a listed activity in terms of NEMA: AQA, **Government Notice 893 of 2013 as amended by GN 551 on 12 June 2015** as listed below.

- Category 8, Subcategory 8.1: Thermal treatment of general and hazardous waste
- Category 8, Subcategory 8.2: Crematoria and veterinary waste incineration and

Listed activities as listed in terms of NEM-WA, **Government Notice 921 of 2013 as amended by GN 633 on 24 July 2015**

- Category A (6): The treatment of general waste using any form of treatment at a facility that has the capacity to process in excess of 10 tons but less than 100 tons.
- Category A (7): The treatment of hazardous waste using any form of treatment at a facility that has the capacity to process in excess of 500kg but less than 1 ton per day excluding the treatment of effluent, wastewater or sewage.

The above mentioned project requires an undertaking of the Public Participation Process as per section 45 of NEMA (Act 109 of 2008).

## **2 SITE SENSITIVITY VERIFICATION (STATUS QUO)**

Site verification process was contacted by Ms Liketso Tsotetsi on the 26<sup>th</sup> Feb 2020. The purpose was to verify the current land use, state of environment and the current site activities. The area is currently zoned for agricultural use which support the current activities on site, the chicken layer houses. The proposed area has been transformed by the current 10 chicken houses, offices, showers and laundry rooms. Below is the description of the land use verified during the site visits.

- **Land Use:**

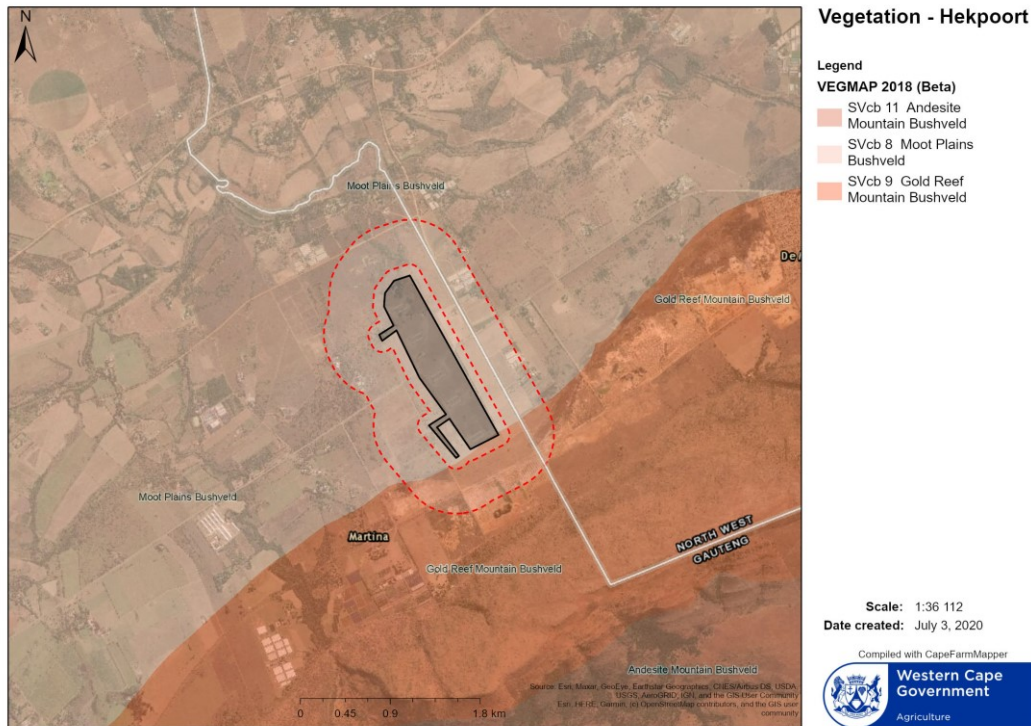
The predominant land use is chicken houses and internal roads with few patches of relatively secondary grassland with altered habitat due to the chicken houses.



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- **Vegetation Cover:**

The site is situated within the Moot Plains Bushveld Biome which is considered vulnerable in terms of conservation status. The area is characterized by patches of grassland biome, *Acacia* species. Much of the natural vegetation has been removed and replaced with lawn grass.

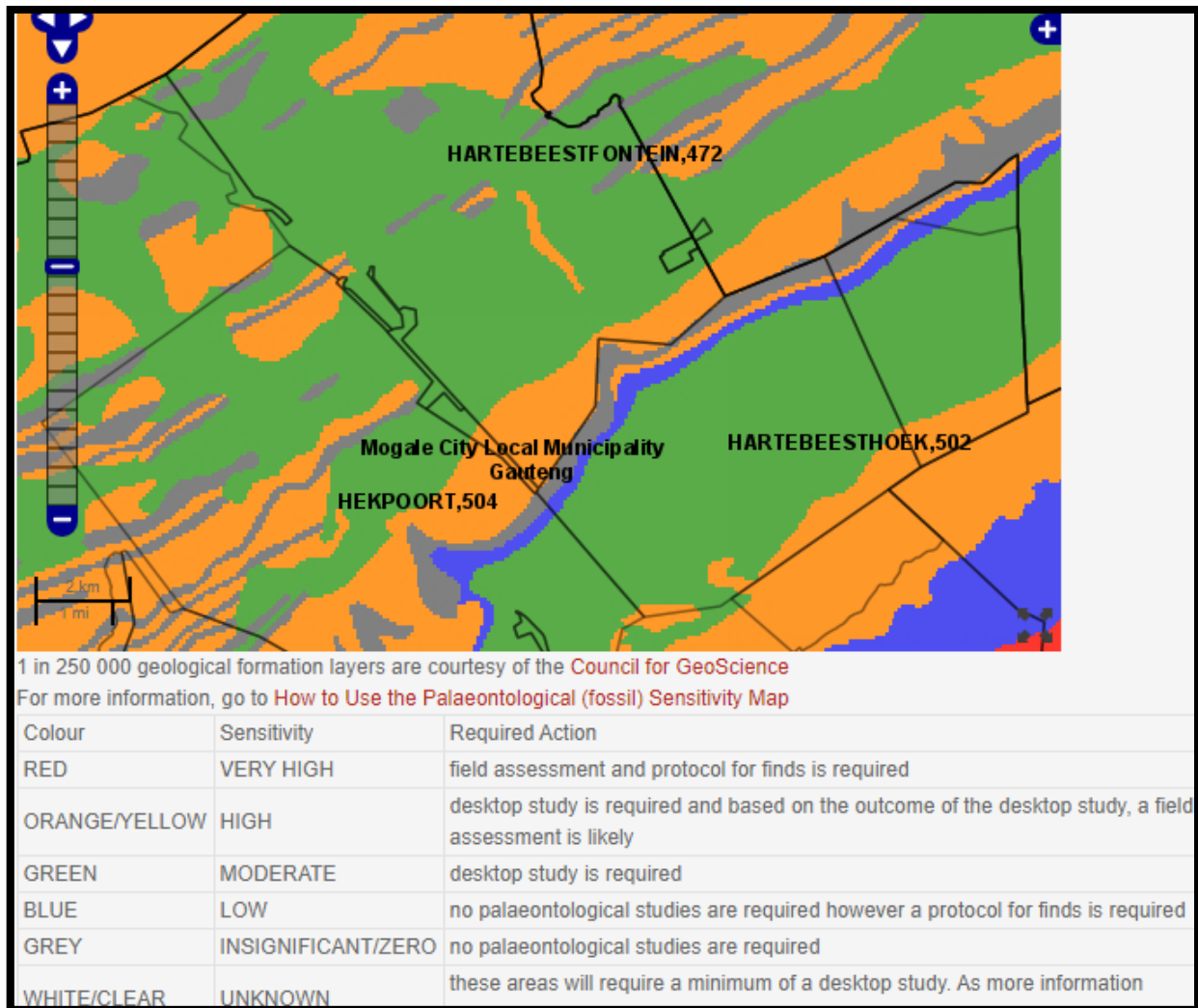


- **Cultural and Heritage**

No signs of cultural and heritage were identified on site. Given the history of the operation, no artefact or remains have been found on site over the past 15 years of operation. According to South African Heritage Resources, the area falls within the medium sensitivity which requires a desktop study. However the site does not trigger or impact any of the following listed section in terms of Heritage Act (Act no 25 of 1999)

Section	Description	Impact
34	Preservation of buildings older than 60 years	No Impact
35	Archaeological, paleontological and meteor sites	No Impact
36	Graves and burial sites	No Impact
37	Protection of public monuments	No Impact
38	Does activity trigger a HIA?	No

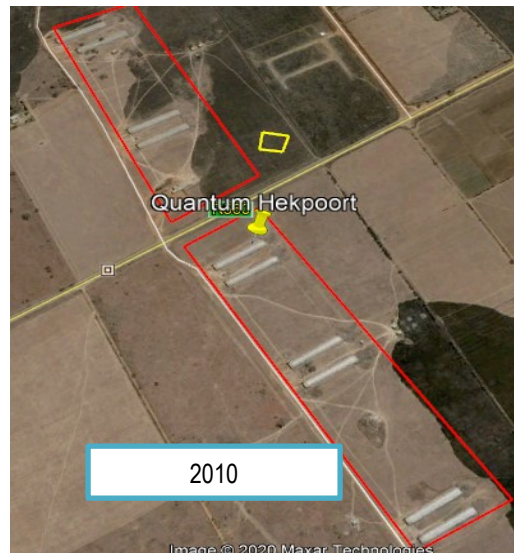
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## 2.1 Desktop Analysis

The satellite images were used for the assessment of the area in terms of transformation over the period on 10 years. The images indicate that the area has been transformed over the past 15 years.

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**3 MOTIVATION FOR EXCLUSION OF SPECILAIST STUDIES (HERITAGE, ECOLOGY AND AGRUCLTURAL SUITABILITY).**

The proposed development area encompasses the upgrading of the currently existing chicken houses. The new additions to the current operations are evaporation ponds and incinerator which are not triggering any EIA listed activities independently.

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Given the site verification and desktop analysis, the EAP is of opinion that no specialist studies (ecology , heritage and agricultural suitability) are required given the following findings.

- The activity involves upgrading of the existing chicken houses
- The new proposed activities (evaporation ponds and incinerator) will not trigger any EIA listed activities independently apart from waste and Air Emissions License
- The area has been transformed by existing houses, thus represents minimal natural habitat and habitat variety;
- No sensitive areas in terms of cultural and heritage has been identified
- The area has high agricultural potential and is also zoned for agriculture.

#### **4 CONCLUSION**

It is concluded that the proposed activity will not pose an additional impact that will require specialist input. The anticipated impact will be addressed in the Environmental Management Plan. Following the above narrations, the EAP is confident that there is no need to conduct ecological and heritage impact assessment.