



MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT

STATEMENT THAT A PROPOSAL MAY BE IMPLEMENTED (PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT 1986)

PROPOSED UPGRADING OF EXISTING NORTH DANDALUP ABATTOIR

CLOVER MEATS

This proposal may be implemented subject to the following conditions:

1. The proponent shall adhere to the proposal as assessed by the Environmental Protection Authority and shall fulfil the commitments made in the Public Environmental Report (copy of commitments attached).
2. The proponent shall dispose of treated effluent via irrigation to the satisfaction of the Environmental Protection Authority. If detrimental environmental impacts are detected, the Environmental Protection Authority shall require, as a condition of licence, that the proponent modify the operation to the satisfaction of the Environmental Protection Authority.
3. Prior to commissioning the plant, the proponent shall prepare and subsequently implement a tree planting programme to the satisfaction of the Environmental Protection Authority. This programme shall be prepared in consultation with the Department of Conservation and Land Management with the objective of assisting with removal of phosphorus from the site.
4. Prior to construction, the proponent shall submit and subsequently implement a monitoring programme to the satisfaction of the Environmental Protection Authority, following consultation with the Murray Shire Council.

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The monitoring programme shall include:

- (1) initial baseline sampling;
 - (2) parameters to be measured;
 - (3) sampling sites and times;
 - (4) reporting times to the Environmental Protection Authority;
and
 - (5) a commitment to modify operations if necessary, to reduce the impact of pollution, to the satisfaction of the Environmental Protection Authority.
5. Prior to use, the proponent shall amend earthen stock-holding paddocks with sufficient "red mud", to reduce phosphorus losses to groundwater to levels acceptable to the Environmental Protection Authority. The proponent shall monitor the area to the satisfaction of the Environmental Protection Authority.
 6. The proponent shall ensure that the quality of effluent from the waste water treatment system conforms to the requirements of the Health Department of Western Australia, the Water Authority of Western Australia and the Environmental Protection Authority.
 7. The proponent shall control odours and dust at all times to the satisfaction of the Environmental Protection Authority and the Murray Shire Council.
 8. The proponent shall monitor the treatment pond system for leakage to the satisfaction of the Environmental Protection Authority. If leakage occurs at any time, the proponent shall rectify it immediately to the satisfaction of the Environmental Protection Authority.
 9. The proponent shall design and construct the waste water treatment facility with sufficient capacity to hold at least 28 days' winter irrigation water production to allow for soil water-logging.
 10. Prior to commissioning the plant, the proponent shall obtain the approval of the Murray Shire Council, the Health Department of Western Australia and the Environmental Protection Authority for the method and location of solid waste disposal.
 11. The proponent shall be responsible for decommissioning the plant and rehabilitating the site and its environs to the satisfaction of the Environmental Protection Authority, following consultation with the Murray Shire Council.

12. The proponent shall, at least six months prior to decommissioning, prepare a decommissioning and rehabilitation plan to the satisfaction of the Environmental Protection Authority.
13. No transfer of ownership, control or management of the project which would give rise to a need for the replacement of the proponent shall take place until the Minister has advised the proponent that approval has been given for the nomination of a replacement proponent. Any request for the exercise of that power of the Minister shall be accompanied by a copy of this statement endorsed with an undertaking by the proposed replacement proponent to carry out the project in accordance with the conditions and procedures set out in the statement.

Bárry Hodge, MLA
MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT

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LIST OF COMMITMENTS

The proponent has provided the following commitments in the PER and in response to questions raised:

1. The abattoir will be designed and operated to minimise water use and maximise waste recovery, thereby ensuring the minimum practicable volume and strength of wastewater is produced.
2. The wastewater treatment and disposal system incorporates what is believed to be the most appropriate available technology currently available. Should any new technology for effluent treatment or disposal be developed which proves to be more efficient and cost effective than existing procedures, the proponent will approach EPA for permission to embody such technology in their system.
3. In the unlikely case that the proponent decides to introduce chemical addition as part of the wastewater treatment, chemical treatment would be carried out to the satisfaction of the EPA.
4. The proposed treatment and disposal system has been designed and will be operated to ensure that the concentrations of constituents in the wastewater will be reduced to levels deemed by the EPA and the Water Authority of Western Australia to be suitable for disposal without adverse impacts on the environment.
5. The proponent commits itself to having its discharge licenced and understands that limits within the licence will apply to accidental discharge such as leaks from the ponding system in addition to the normal discharge.
6. Live cattle will be unloaded from trucks and held in concrete-paved, roofed stockyards, before slaughter. The stockyards will be cleaned daily in accordance with the Department of Health requirements. Wastewater from the stockyards will be channelled to the lagooning system for treatment.
7. If wastewater constituent loads prove to be greater (or removal efficiencies are lower) than assumed, additional lagooning will be constructed if necessary to ensure that the loading criteria are not exceeded. Similarly, additional lagooning will be constructed if necessary to allow for any increase in slaughter rate above 200 cattle per day.
8. The proponent will consult the Department of Conservation and Land Management regarding a tree planting programme. A buffer of Tasmanian bluegum (*Eucalyptus globus*) trees covering approximately 25 ha will be planted along the western boundary of Nambeelup Brook to intercept nutrients in groundwater flowing towards the brook and lower the groundwater level. Additional trees will be planted along the Lakes Road boundary to improve visual amenity and provide a barrier for noise and odour control. Trees will be planted in areas which are presently cleared; no additional clearing is expected to be necessary. Tree planting will be done in a manner satisfactory to the EPA.
9. The proponent will undertake all necessary measures to minimise and if possible prevent the discharge of nuisance odours beyond the site boundaries. If a recurring odour nuisance is shown to result from the

rendering plant gases, Clover Meats will install equipment to the satisfaction of the EPA to remove odorous compounds from the rendering plant gases before they are discharged.

10. All machinery with a potential to cause nuisance noise levels will be enclosed to ensure that noise levels satisfy the Neighbourhood Annoyance regulations.
11. Any machinery which breaks down will be repaired promptly. The wastewater treatment and disposal system has been designed and will be operated to allow significant buffers to prevent any adverse environmental impacts resulting from equipment malfunction.
12. The proponent will monitor the receiving environment before and after discharge commences to ensure that any environmental impacts are at an acceptable level. To this end, the proponent commits itself to submitting a monitoring programme to the EPA for approval and carrying out the monitoring programme to the satisfaction of the EPA.
13. The proponent will monitor the performance of the wastewater treatment and disposal system to ensure that it is operating satisfactorily.
14. The proponent will monitor the groundwater to detect possible leaks from the treatment ponds and will promptly repair any treatment ponds which may be found to be causing a detrimental impact.
15. In the event that the monitoring programme indicates that an adverse environmental impact is occurring or developing, the proponent will alter the abattoir operation or introduce additional environmental management controls as necessary to reduce the impact to an acceptable level.
16. The proponent is aware that soil amended with red mud has a limited lifespan before saturation with phosphorous occurs and that desorption of phosphorous may occur. Measurement of the performance of the amended soil will be an important component of the monitoring programme. The proponent will co-operate with and in fact encourage the EPA and other interested Government bodies who may wish to collect data on the performance of the soil amended with red mud.
17. The proponent has adopted a red mud amendment rate and phosphorous application rate which are believed to be reasonable based on laboratory and field experiments. However, if the monitoring programme indicates that the red mud is not performing as expected, the proponent will modify the method used for disposal by irrigation by increasing the amended area or amending with a higher application rate of red mud. Any such modifications will be carried out in a manner satisfactory to the EPA.
18. Wastewater disposal will be achieved by irrigating crops grown in soil amended with neutralised red mud. No part of the site where groundwater is near the surface will be used for irrigation.
19. The proponent will ensure that personnel operating all of the

19. wastewater treatment and operating system, including the irrigated crops, will be technically competent to do so.
20. The treatment efficiency of the first anaerobic pond is expected to decrease with time due to the buildup of settled solids. When the pond is no longer providing efficient treatment, the proponent will review a number of options to provide additional capacity. It is likely that the preferred option will be to construct a new anaerobic pond and to fill in the old pond. Such work will be carried out by the proponent to the satisfaction of the EPA.
21. Where possible, solid waste will be recovered and exported from the site. Any remaining solid wastes will be disposed at sites approved by the EPA.