



Environmental Protection Act 1986, Part V

Licence: L8344/2009/2

Expiry date: Sunday, 6 May 2017

Decision Document authorised by: Lauren Trott
Delegated Officer



Contents

1	Purpose of this Document	2
2	Administrative summary	3
3	Executive summary of proposal and assessment	4
4	Decision table	5
5	Advertisement and consultation table	6
6	Risk Assessment	6

1 Purpose of this Document

This decision document explains how DER has assessed and determined the application and provides a record of DER's decision-making process and how relevant factors have been taken into account. Stakeholders should note that this document is limited to DER's assessment and decision making under Part V of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*. Other approvals may be required for the proposal, and it is the proponent's responsibility to ensure they have all relevant approvals for their Premises.



2 Administrative summary

Administrative details		
Application type	Works Approval <input type="checkbox"/> New Licence <input type="checkbox"/> Licence amendment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Works Approval amendment <input type="checkbox"/>	
Activities that cause the premises to become prescribed premises	Category number(s)	Assessed design capacity
	55	80 000 animals per year
Application verified	Date: N/A	
Application fee paid	Date: N/A	
Works Approval has been complied with	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Compliance Certificate received	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Commercial-in-confidence claim	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Commercial-in-confidence claim outcome	N/A	
Is the proposal a Major Resource Project?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Was the proposal referred to the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) under Part IV of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i> ?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Referral decision No: N/A Managed under Part V <input type="checkbox"/> Assessed under Part IV <input type="checkbox"/>
Is the proposal subject to Ministerial Conditions?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ministerial statement No: EPA Report No:
Does the proposal involve a discharge of waste into a designated area (as defined in section 57 of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i>)?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Department of Water consulted Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Is the Premises within an Environmental Protection Policy (EPP) Area Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Is the Premises subject to any EPP requirements? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		



3 Executive summary of proposal and assessment

The National Indigenous Pastoral Enterprises Pty Ltd (NIPE) operates the Roebuck Export Depot (RED), which accepts cattle for assembly and preparation prior to live export at the Port of Broome. The facility has a design capacity to hold approximately 11,662 animals at any one time.

The RED is located approximately 39 kilometres east of Broome on Broome Road. It is located on Lot 382 on Plan 193561, a 100-hectare area for the purpose of activities associated with the cattle industry and a freight yard. The closest residence to the premises is the Roebuck Roadhouse (including caravan park accommodation), located approximately 1.6 kilometres east-northeast. The next closest residence is a rural property located 2 kilometres west.

The RED does not operate during the wet season, as cattle are typically unable to be mustered during this time of year. The operating season usually runs from March to December. The RED only operates during the dry season during which time 15% of the total annual rainfall occurs.

Cattle are unloaded from the trucks onto a concrete hardstand area that feeds into the receival pens where the cattle are rehydrated and allowed to rest. From the receival pens, the cattle are weighed then dipped, or just dipped in a chemical treatment solution to remove ticks.

The cattle dip is covered and has an overall length of approximately 10 metres, which consists of a 3-metre swim and a 7-metre walk out, with a capacity of approximately 17,000 litres. It is a concrete lined drop-in dip which means the entrance is vertical. The dip has a total depth of 2.5 metres which allows for water (or chemical) depth of 2.1 metres.

After dipping the cattle are directed into the holding pens where they spend a minimum of three days until they are loaded back onto trucks for export out of the Port of Broome. The base of the 32 holding pens is pindan soil. Manure from the cattle mixes over time with the top layer of the pindan soil at the base of the holding pens forming a clay-like layer. This layer provides an even surface for the base of the pens and prevents potholes developing throughout the pens; which would occur if this layer is not present.

The manure is removed from the pens, at a minimum, prior to the wet season. NIPE leave approximately 50 mm of the clay-like layer at the bottom of the pens each time the manure is removed. At the end of the operating season and before the wet season commences, NIPE will remove as much of this layer as possible without disrupting the integrity of the layer.

A carcass disposal trench is located 285 meters to the west of the yards for disposal of dead animals.

The emissions of significance associated with operations at the RED include discharges to land (from stormwater contaminated with manure and / or dipping chemicals) and solid / liquid wastes (manure). These emissions require management under licence conditions to ensure there are no adverse impacts on the environment.

The licence was amended in February 2016 to change the Occupier details, increase production design capacity, and incorporate stormwater improvements. The increase in throughput will not increase the number of animals held on site at any one time.

A further licence amendment is being processed in March 2016 to extend the due dates for completion of stormwater improvement requirements under condition 2.1.1.



4 Decision table

All applications are assessed in line with the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*, the *Environmental Protection Regulations 1987* and DER's Operational Procedure on Assessing Emissions and Discharges from Prescribed Premises. Where other references have been used in making the decision they are detailed in the decision document.

DECISION TABLE			
Works Approval / Licence section	Condition number W = Works Approval L= Licence	Justification (including risk description & decision methodology where relevant)	Reference documents
Improvements	2.1.1	Operation Condition 2.1.1 was added to the licence in February 2016 requiring the Licensee to construct a new stormwater retention pond at the site with an engineered liner and sufficient storage capacity. Due to circumstances beyond the proponents' control the original EIP due dates specified in the licence could not be met, as such, DER is amending the licence to allow a further six weeks for completion of the improvements. The Licensee is now required to provide a design report to DER by 15 May 2016 and then install the new pond by 15 August 2016 in accordance with the submitted design.	<i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i> Application supporting documents



5 Advertisement and consultation table

Date	Event	Comments received/Notes	How comments were taken into consideration
28/03/2016	Proponent sent a copy of draft instrument	Proponent has reviewed the draft amended licence and has no comments.	N/A

6 Risk Assessment

Note: This matrix is taken from the DER Corporate Policy Statement No. 07 - Operational Risk Management

Table 1: Emissions Risk Matrix

Likelihood	Consequence				
	Insignificant	Minor	Moderate	Major	Severe
Almost Certain	Moderate	High	High	Extreme	Extreme
Likely	Moderate	Moderate	High	High	Extreme
Possible	Low	Moderate	Moderate	High	Extreme
Unlikely	Low	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	High
Rare	Low	Low	Moderate	Moderate	High