



Application to replace expiring licence

Division 3, Part V *Environmental Protection Act 1986*

Licence number	L8812/2014/2
Licence holder	Hillcroft Farms Pty Ltd
ACN	158 889 699
File number	DER2014/000620-1
Premises	Hillcroft Farms 1561 Yornaning Road LOL GRAY WA 6311 Lot 4301 on Deposited Plan 146817 Lot 13054 On Deposited Plan 146817 as depicted in Schedule 1 in licence
Date of report	09/06/2021
Status of report	Final Report

1. Scope of assessment

1.1 Application summary and overview of the premises

Hillcroft Farms Pty Ltd (licence holder) has submitted an application to replace expiring licence L8812/2014/1, issued under Division 3 Part V of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* on 18 March 2021. The licence is due to expire on 15 June 2021.

The licence holder operates an intensive piggery (the premises) with a design capacity of up to 16,170 animals and an animal feed manufacturing facility with a design capacity to produce up to 10,000 tonnes per annum.

The Licence Holder lodged a licence amendment application on 26 November 2019 to construct a new gilt shed, a screw press solids separator and associated infrastructure at the premises, with no associated increase in the design capacity of the piggery. All infrastructure and associated infrastructure was constructed and an Environmental Compliance Report submitted to the Department on 15/10/2020.

The piggery operations generate approximately 34.19 ML of wastewater per year. This includes conventional shed flushing water, water containing manure and drinking water wastage. All wastewater is directed to the existing wastewater treatment system on the premises via underground PVC pipes. This wastewater treatment system contains four wastewater treatment ponds, an anaerobic pond, a facultative pond and two evaporation ponds which are all clay lined. No wastewater is irrigated.

The department has determined to undertake an administrative renewal of the licence only as the current licence was recently issued on 18 May 2020.

1.2 Regulatory framework

In replacing the licence the department has considered and given due regard to its regulatory framework and relevant policy documents which are available at <https://dwer.wa.gov.au/regulatory-documents>.

1.3 Complaints and incidents history

There have been no incidents or complaints identified at the premises by the Department, since the licence was issued 13 June 2014.

2. Consultation

The draft replacement licence and this decision report were provided to the licence holder on 15/05/2021 for comment. The licence holder's comments, along with DWER's response, have been summarised in Appendix 1.

3. Decision

The delegated officer has determined the risks to human health and the environment from activities on the premises, and as previously assessed by the department on 18 May 2020, have not materially changed. The delegated officer has therefore determined to grant the replacement licence without conducting any additional risk assessment. The replacement licence has been issued for a period of 20 years.

In replacing the expiring licence the delegated officer has also determined to:

- updated cover page;
- revise licence conditions numbers and realign condition numbers for numerical consistency;
- remove redundant forms and map/s;

- removed conditions relating to emissions and discharges and monitoring;
- remove all conditions relating to 'works' as they are now completed;
- included a new infrastructure and equipment table; and
- transfer all existing regulatory controls and conditions to the replacement licence.

3.1 Summary of changes

The below table provides a summary of the proposed updates and will act as a record of implemented changes. All proposed changes have been incorporated into the replacement licence.

Condition / table	Description
Cover page	Licence version updated. Issue and expiry dates updated.
Previous condition 1, 2 and 3	Removed conditions referencing Compliance Reporting as newly constructed infrastructure has been completed and these conditions are now completed and therefore redundant.
Table 1	Included all existing infrastructure and equipment assessed during a licence amendment issued on 18/05/2020. The amendment was to construct a new gilt shed, a screw press solids separator and associated infrastructure.
Previous conditions 9,10,11,12 and 13	Removed all conditions and maps relating to emissions to land (irrigation).
Table 3	
Table 4	
Figure 4	
Schedule 2	Included the constructed infrastructure into Table 1 from Schedule 2.
Definitions	Definitions removed: AS/NZS 5667.10, discharge, emission, NATA and NATA accredited.
Forms	Removed Notification Form N1, to be consistent with current licence format.



Neville Welsh

Senior Industry Regulation Officer

an officer delegated under section 20 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (WA)

Appendix 1: Summary of licence holder's comments on draft licence and decision report

Method	Comments received	DWER response
Licence holder sent draft documents on 15/05/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The licence holder requested all conditions relating to irrigation be removed from the licence. All wastewater is directed to evaporation ponds and is not irrigated.• The licence holder also requested that all reference to works be removed from the licence as all construction has been completed. An Environmental Compliance Report was submitted to the Department on 15/10/2020 and confirmed the infrastructure has been constructed.	DWER removed all conditions relating to irrigation and construction of infrastructure for which a Compliance Report has confirmed the construction to be completed.