Decision Report

Application for Licence Renewal

Part V Division 3 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Licence Number L9100/2017/3

Licence Holder Prime Meat Co Pty Ltd

ACN ACN 628 286 046

File Number DER2017/001747-1

Premises Geraldton Meat Exports

63 Abattoir Road,

Moonyoonooka WA 6532,

Legal description -

Lot 1 on Diagram 42752

Certificate of Title Volume 609 Folio 74A

As defined in Schedule 1

Date of Report 28/11/2022

Decision Renewed licence granted

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1. Decision summary

This decision report documents the assessment of potential risks to the environment and public health from emissions and discharges during the operation of the premises. As a result of this assessment, the application to renew licence L9100/2017/2 has been granted.

The decision report for the existing licence will remain on the department's website for future reference and will act as a record of the department's decision making.

2. Scope of assessment

2.1 Regulatory framework

In renewing 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.

2.2 Application and premises summary

Licence L9100/2012/2 is held by Prime Meat Co Pty Ltd (Licence Holder) for Geraldton Meat Exports (the Premises), located at 63 Abattoir Road, Moonyoonooka.

The Premises relates to the category and the assessed production capacity under Schedule 1 of the *Environmental Protection Regulations 1987* (EP Regulations) which are defined in existing Licence L9100/2017/2

On 03 October 2022, the Licence Holder submitted an application to the department to renew Licence L9100/2017/2 under section 59B of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act).

3. Consultation

The licence holder was provided with the draft Licence and Decision Report on 18 November 2022. Comments received from the licence holder on 25 November 2022 have been considered by the Delegated Officer. The licence holder requested the expiry date for the licence be amended to 2026. This change as been reflected in the issued instrument.

4. Assessment

This renewal application does not propose any changes to the premises or that the licence holder proposes to recommence operations. The premises has been in care and maintenance since 2017.

On 23 October 2019 DWER conducted an inspection of the premises and determined that much of the infrastructure and containment infrastructure was damaged and not fit for purpose and not able to meet the regulatory requirements which were included on the previous licence.

Given that the premises is in care and maintenance and the infrastructure is not fit for purpose to service the waste emitted from abattoir operations, works will be required to upgrade premises infrastructure, so it is suitable to contain, treat and store waste generated on the premises without causing pollution or environmental harm. No emissions or discharges are authorised by this licence and any discharges of solid of liquid waste to the environment would be considered an *unauthorized discharge* and an offence under the Ep Act and Regulations.

An assessment of the critical containment infrastructure (CCI) and subsequent CCI report will also be required before operations can commence. This Critical Containment Infrastructure Report will be required to have certification by an accredited testing authority that the infrastructure meets the following minimum requirements:

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- Identification of the type of liners used for each wastewater treatment pond;
- Evidence that all pond liners meet the required permeability;
- Information regarding the total overall capacity of the pond system, allowing for operating parameters such as a minimum of 500mm freeboard on all ponds;
- The water balance for the wastewater treatment system that includes an assessment of the volume of wet weather storage available;
- Information on the groundwater underlying the wastewater treatment ponds including quality and depth to groundwater in meters below ground level;

5. Decision

The Delegated Officer has determined that the risk profile of the premises has not changed and will grant a renewed licence (L9100/2017/3) providing that activities, emissions and receptors as stated in existing approvals remain unchanged.

As premises infrastructure, in particular the critical containment infrastructure, has not been demonstrated as being fit for purpose, the Delegated Officer has, determined to include two emission control conditions to the licence to prevent waste from being discharged from the premises until such time as a works approval has been submitted that outlines the improvement works that are required to ensure all waste management infrastructure is fit for purpose and meets industry standards. See Conditions 1 and 2 on the Renewed Licence:

6. Conclusion

Based on the assessment in this Renewal Report, the Delegated Officer has determined that a renewed licence will be granted, subject to conditions commensurate with the determined controls necessary for administration and reporting requirements.

References

- 1. Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) 2019, *Guideline: Odour Emissions*, Perth, Western Australia.
- 2. DWER 2019b, Guideline: Industry Regulation Guide to Licensing, Perth, Western Australia.
- 3. DWER 2020a, Licence L9100/2017/2 and Decision Report for Prime Meat Co Pty Ltd, revised 21 January 2020
- DWER 2020b, Guideline: Risk Assessments, Perth, Western Australia.
 Prime Meat Co Pty Ltd, Application to renew licence L9100/2017/2, submitted 03 October 2022

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