



Application for licence amendment

Division 3, Part V *Environmental Protection Act 1986*

Licence number	L9384/2023/1
Licence holder	Ucarty Holdings Ltd
Application number	APP-0029848
Premises	Ucarty Cattle Feedlot Ucarty Road UCARTY WA 6462
Date of report	23 September 2025
Status of report	Final

Amendment description

This amendment is made pursuant to section 59 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act) to amend the existing licence issued in respect of the prescribed premises as set out below. This notice of amendment is hereby given under section 59B(9) of the EP Act.

This amendment was initiated by the licence holder and is limited to adding the newly constructed shed at the Ucarty Feedlot, in addition to other administrative updates and changes.

In completing the assessment documented in this report, the department has considered and given due regard to its regulatory framework and relevant policy documents which are available at <http://dwer.wa.gov.au/regulatory-documents>.

Purpose and scope of assessment

Ucarty Holdings Pty Ltd (Ucarty/licence holder) is seeking changes to its existing licence (L9384/2023/1) following completion of a roof over six previously uncovered pens at the premises.

Background

The licence holder has been operating a feedlot on the premises since 2006, which is accredited under the National Feedlot Accreditation Scheme (NFAS). The premises is situated on farming land in Ucarty, about 125 km north-east of Perth.

Works approval W4170 was issued in 2005 for the construction of the original feedlot for 1,500 head of cattle. The feedlot was partially constructed before a registration (R1869) was issued for the commencement of operations. Construction compliance documentation was not submitted prior to W4170 expiring in 2008; construction also had deviated from the original plans, where only 6 of 12 proposed pens were constructed with a compacted base. A further 8 larger backgrounding pens were later established (without a compacted base) that have since been decommissioned.

Works approval W6554 was issued in 2022 for the construction of a roof over half of the pens, to replace the 8 backgrounding pens.

L9384 was issued in May 2023, following construction and verification of the works under W6554, for ongoing operation of the existing outdoor pens and new covered pens at an assessed design capacity of 2,360 SCU.

An amendment to L9384 was issued in July 2024 for the construction of a roof over the remaining six uncovered pens, to allow for an increased stocking density from 2,360 to 2,695 standard cattle units (SCU). In addition, all uncovered pen infrastructure at the site has now been removed, including e.g. fences, feed bunks etc, and new pen infrastructure has been installed following completion of the shed.

Proposed amendments

Ucarty seeks amendments to L9384, to include the newly constructed shed as authorised infrastructure at the premises and reference the combined capacity of the two sheds as 3,500 head (2,695 SCUs equivalent), in addition to:

- deleting all references to 'outdoor pens', as all cattle are now fed in sheds;
- deleting references to the now obsolete infrastructure, being the main catch drain, controlled drainage area, and the evaporation pond;
- delete the works conditions 2, 3 & 4 relating to the second shed, as these requirements have now been completed; and
- update the manure spreading application rates, to reflect the minor increase in cattle numbers and therefore the amount of dry solids generated and carcasses.

Decision

The department has reviewed the construction completion report for the second shed and is satisfied the infrastructure has been constructed in accordance with the requirements of the licence.

It is noted the entire shed is bounded by a concrete wall – on the eastern and western sides by the feed bunk, and a short wall on the northern and southern sides. The delegated officer is satisfied this aspect exceeds the requirements in the licence to construct a 150 mm high bund around the perimeter of the pens and will prevent the ingress of stormwater.

Table 1 has therefore been updated to reflect all covered pens, with references to the outdoor pens deleted, in addition to the main catch drain, controlled drainage area, and evaporation pond. Operational requirements for the now obsolete infrastructure have also been deleted from Table 2, in addition to works conditions 2, 3 & 4.

Table 3 has been updated to reflect the updated nutrient balance, in which spreading rates have changed slightly to 2.4 t/ha and 3.0 t/ha for the spent bedding/manure product and decomposed carcasses, respectively, for a winter cereal hay crop yielding 4 t/ha; and 2.0 t/ha and 2.5 t/ha for the spent bedding/manure product and decomposed carcasses respectively, for a grain wheat crop yielding 2.5 t/ha.

The assessed design capacity of the premises has also been updated on the cover page, to reflect 3,500 head, or 2,695 SCUs equivalent.

In amending the licence, the delegated officer has also revised and realigned condition numbers for numerical consistency.

Consultation

The licence holder was provided with drafts of the amended licence and this report for comment on 2 September 2025 and sought only minor clarifications.

Conclusion

The delegated officer has determined to amend the existing licence, subject to conditions commensurate with the determined controls and necessary for administration and reporting requirements.

Summary of amendments

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

Condition / table	Description
Cover page	Assessed design capacity increased to 3,500 animals (2,695 SCUs equivalent)
Condition 1, Table 1	New shed added to infrastructure table
	Outdoor pens deleted
	Main catch drain, controlled drainage area, and evaporation pond deleted
Conditions 2 – 5	Works conditions deleted
Condition 2, Table 2	Main catch drain, controlled drainage area, and evaporation pond deleted
Condition 7, Table 3	Spreading rates amended to 2.4 t/hr for spent bedding and 3.0 t/hr for mortalities compost