Decision Report

Application for Works Approval

Part V Division 3 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*

Works Approval Number	W6452/2020/1
Applicant	Ausvision Rural Services Pty Ltd
ACN	106 075 763
File Number	DER2020/000477
Premises	Beaufort River Meats Abattoir 46 Macri Road BEAUFORT RIVER WA 6394 Legal description – Part of Lot 508 on Plan 418913
Date of Report	03/06/2021
Proposed Decision	Works approval granted

Caron Goodbourn

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Caron Goodbourn
Manager, Process Industries
an officer delegated under section 20 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (WA)

1. Decision summary

This decision report documents the assessment of potential risks to the environment and public health from emissions and discharges during the construction and operation of the proposed anaerobic pond. As a result of this assessment, Works Approval W6452/2020/1 has been granted.

2. Purpose and scope of assessment

On 6 October 2020, Ausvision Rural Services Pty Ltd (the applicant) submitted an application for a works approval under section 54 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act) to construct a new anaerobic pond at the Beaufort River Meats abattoir (the premises). The new anaerobic pond will be located within the existing premises, immediately north of the existing anaerobic pond.

When constructed, the new anaerobic pond will enable the existing anaerobic pond to be taken offline for dewatering and desludging. The operation of two anaerobic ponds will enable the applicant to implement a regular desludging program and improve overall wastewater management practices at the premises.

The assessment of this application has been undertaken in accordance with DWERs published Regulatory Framework and relevant policy documents which are available at https://dwer.wa.gov.au/regulatory-documents. The scope of the assessment includes:

- the design of the proposed works; and
- a risk-based assessment of the emissions and discharges associated with the construction, commissioning and operation of the new anaerobic pond.

2.1 Exclusions to the assessment

2.1.1 Existing anaerobic pond

The applicant has indicated that following construction of the new anaerobic pond, the existing anaerobic pond will be desludged and potentially relined. Desludging of the existing anaerobic pond is considered to be maintenance, and the removal of sludge from this pond can be managed under condition 6 of existing licence L6826/1994/13.

The licence, however, does not allow for the sludge to be spread on land within the premises. The applicant has indicated that the sludge will be tested and compared to standards, however, this testing has not yet been completed and the applicant has not indicated where on the premises the sludge will be spread. There is potential for the sludge to contain high concentrations of nutrients, oil and grease and metals; therefore, the applicant is required to apply for an amendment to the existing licence to include this activity.

Additionally, the applicant has indicated that a pond liner may be installed prior to reusing the pond if permeability testing of the pond base indicates it does not meet a permeability of at least 1×10^{-9} m/s. Depending on the scope of work, a works approval or licence amendment application may be required for the applicant to replace the existing liner.

Emissions and discharges from the spreading of the sludge on land, or the re-lining of the existing anaerobic pond has not been assessed within this decision report and is not authorised under works approval W6452/2020/1.

2.1.2 Clearing

The applicant has indicated that two mature trees will be felled to allow for the construction of the proposed anaerobic pond and has proposed that the clearing is exempt under Regulation 5, Item 1 of the *Environmental Protection (Clearing of Native Vegetation) Regulations 2004* (Native Vegetation Regulations). It is unclear whether these trees are native. Advice from the department's

Native Vegetation Regulation Branch indicates that the clearing of the trees will likely be exempt under the Native Vegetation Regulations if the proposed pond is lined. The clearing of the two trees has not been assessed and is not authorised under this works approval unless in accordance with the exemption of the Native Vegetation Regulations.

3. Overview of Premises

3.1 Existing operational aspects

The applicant currently operates an abattoir facility located approximately 32 km north of Kojonup in the Shire of Woodanilling. The abattoir facility, which commenced operations around 1994, receives sheep and goats for slaughter. Other operations at the premises includes the salting of hides, solid waste storage, wastewater treatment and irrigation of treated wastewater to two authorised areas (Figure 1).

The existing wastewater treatment pond system is designed to treat up to 150 kL/day. Wastewater generated from the abattoir is directed to a rotary screen and auger screw to remove solids prior to being directed to a sump where it is pumped to the existing anaerobic pond. The anaerobic pond also acts as an equalisation pond to buffer peak flows throughout each day. Wastewater is gravity fed to the aerobic pond where it is treated with a flocculant to reduce excess phosphorus then gravity fed into the final pond from which it is irrigated to land.

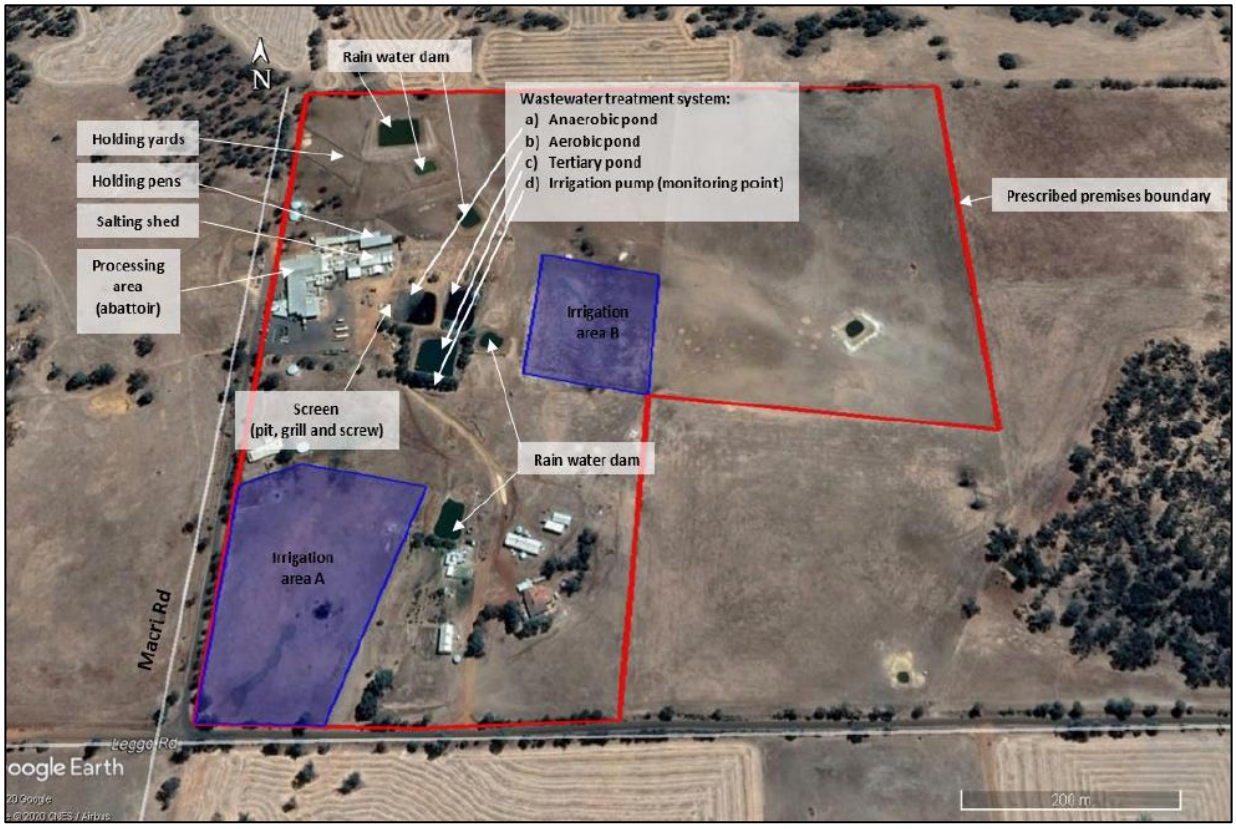

Figure 1 Existing site layout (from application)

3.2 Proposed construction (from application)

The proposed anaerobic pond will have similar dimensions to the existing anaerobic pond with a holding capacity of 4,819.5 m^3 (excluding minimum freeboard volume) (see Figure 2 for dimensions). It has been designed to have internal pond wall slopes of 3:1 (horizontal: vertical).

Following construction, the applicant proposes soil permeability testing to determine whether the in-

situ soils alone will provide an acceptable barrier to groundwater. If a liner is required, the applicant's preference is to install a synthetic liner of 1.5 mm high density polyethylene (HDPE) in order to achieve a hydraulic conductivity of less than 1 x 10^{-9} m/s. In the event a synthetic liner is required, the lining and seams will be inspected to ensure quality specifications are met prior to installation. The liner will be laid on a suitably dressed sub-grade free of rocks or sharp objects that might penetrate the liner.

The pond inlet will be submerged at mid-water depth to minimise odour and surface crust disruption during operation of the pond. Interconnecting PVC piping, along with slight grading of the pond base towards the outlet end, will aid gravity flow of wastewater into the existing aerobic pond. A trapped overflow (T-piece) will also be installed and maintained on the outlet discharge to prevent carry-over of surface floating matter into the downstream aerobic pond.

The outlet pipe, and therefore the nominated static water level of the pond, will be 500 mm below the top of the pond embankment, reducing the risk of overtopping of the pond due to wave action from wind.

The pond will be constructed to allow for at least 10 m wide access around the perimeter to enable vehicle access for future desludging activities. The existing stock proof fence will be extended to include the proposed anaerobic pond.

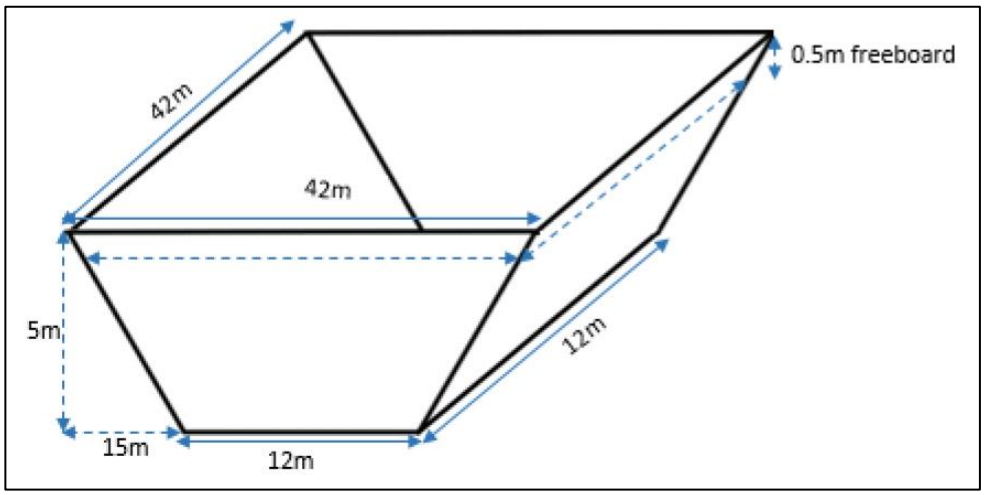

Figure 2 Proposed anaerobic pond dimensions (not to scale) (from application)

3.3 Proposed operational aspects (from application)

The applicant has indicated that the proposed anaerobic pond will have a hydraulic retention time of approximately 20 days and that the holding capacity will accommodate the daily volume of wastewater inflow of up to 240 m^3 from the abattoir facility. Figure 3 shows the proposed wastewater treatment process flow path with the proposed (secondary) anaerobic pond in operation. Note that the applicant proposes that, in the future, wastewater will be alternated between the two anaerobic ponds (with only one anaerobic pond operational at a time), allowing the offline pond to be desludged.

The applicant has committed to keeping the static water level in the new anaerobic pond at least 500 mm below the top of the pond embankment, which is equivalent to the level of the outlet pipe, during operation of the pond.

Stormwater will be directed away from the new anaerobic pond to existing stormwater dams located north of the wastewater treatment ponds.

Following construction of the pond, the applicant has proposed to undertake monitoring over a minimum period of 4 weeks to sample inflow and final water quality for the parameters listed in Table 1. The monitoring is intended to demonstrate whether the system is working effectively and

producing treated wastewater suitable for irrigation at the premises. If the expected results after treatment (Table 1) are not achieved during the 4 weeks, adjustments will be made and additional sampling conducted. Once suitable effluent quality is achieved, the sampling will continue as part of an ongoing operational monitoring program.

Table 1: Environmental monitoring program suite of analytical parameters (from application)

Parameter	Expected results after treatment (limits)	Sample point	Monitoring frequency
pH	6.5 – 8.5	Influent and effluent	Weekly
Biochemical oxygen demand (BOD_5)	< 20 mg/L	Influent and effluent	Weekly
Total suspended solids (TSS)	< 40 mg/L	Influent and effluent	Weekly
Total dissolved solids (TDS)	Approximately 1,500 – 3,500 mg/L	effluent	Weekly
Total aluminum (TA)[1]	0.03 mg/L	Influent and effluent	Weekly
Total nitrogen (TN)[2]	25 to 125 mg/L	Influent and effluent	Weekly
Total phosphorus (TP)[2]	0.8 – 12 mg/L	Influent and effluent	Weekly

Note 1: Total aluminium parameter only to be included in the monitoring program if alum dosing is occurring at the wastewater treatment ponds.
Note 2: Prior to utilizing the new anaerobic pond, the applicant will conduct a soil study of the irrigation areas to determine site-specific nutrient limits for the treated effluent. Nutrient application rates will be based on quantities of plant available nitrogen and phosphorus ot promote health vegetation growth.

Treated wastewater quality in the final pond is currently sampled quarterly in accordance with condition 16 of existing licence L6826/1994/13. Parameters analysed include pH, total dissolved solids (TDS), total suspended solids (TSS), biochemical oxygen demand (BOD), total nitrogen (TN) and total phosphorus (TP).

Results from the 2020 reporting period indicate that the applicant's expected results after treatment (Table 1) are not currently being met (Table 2) for TSS, TN, TP and BOD.

Table 2: Quality of treated wastewater discharged to irrigation areas during 2020

Parameter	Units	Quality of treated wastewater (2020)		Common levels of concern[1]	Typical effluent quality following nutrient removal treatment[2]
		Range of treated wastewater quality	Average treated wastewater quality		
pH	pH units	7.6 – 7.88	7.73	-	-
TDS	mg/L	1,800 – 2,780	2,263	-	-
TSS	mg/L	18 – 122	69	-	5 – 20
TN	mg/L	80 – 140	96	125	10 – 20
TP	mg/L	26 – 42.6	31	12	<2
BOD	mg/L	13 - 82	42	-	5 – 20

Note 1: Maximum short term trigger value guideline for irrigation of water, taken from Table 4.2.11 from ANZECC & ARMCANZ
Note 2: Treatment process category D from Appendix 6 of ARMCANZ and ANZECC 1997. *National Water Quality Management Strategy – Australian Guidelines for Sewerage Systems – Effluent Management*. Commonwealth of Australia.

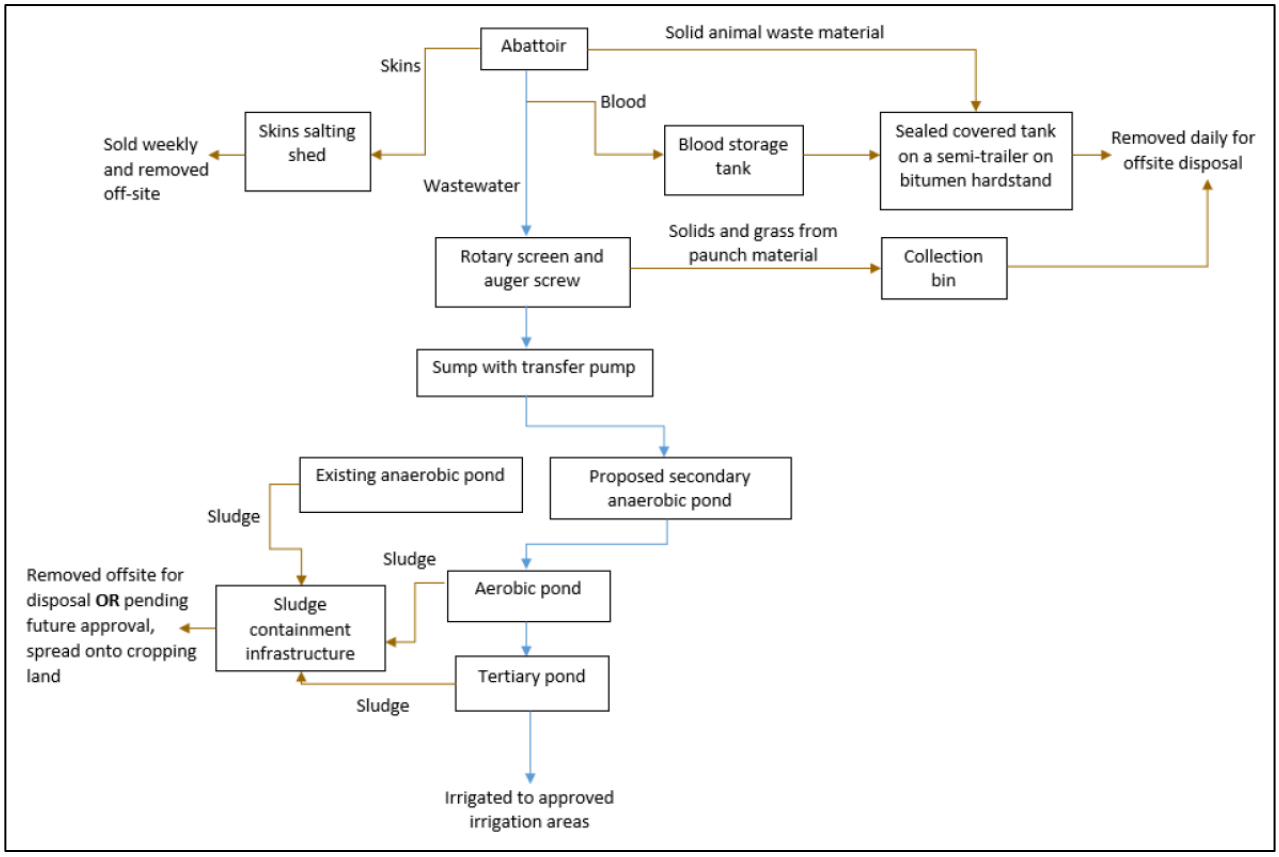

Figure 3 Wastewater treatment process flow diagram with proposed secondary anaerobic pond (from application)

4. Risk assessment

The department assesses the risks of emissions from prescribed premises and identifies the potential source, pathway and impact to receptors in accordance with the *Guidance Statement: Risk Assessments* (DER 2017).

To establish a Risk Event there must be an emission, a receptor which may be exposed to that emission through an identified actual or likely pathway, and a potential adverse effect to the receptor from exposure to that emission.

4.1 Source-pathways and receptors

4.1.1 Emissions and controls

The key emissions and associated actual or likely pathway during construction and operation of the new anaerobic pond which have been considered in this decision report are detailed in Table 3 below. Table 3 also details the proposed control measures the applicant has proposed to assist in controlling these emissions, where necessary.

Table 3: Proposed applicant controls

Emission	Sources	Potential pathways	Proposed controls
Construction			
Dust	Earthworks, vehicle movements	Air/windborne pathway	Works will be short-term and occur during daylight hours.
Noise			

Emission	Sources	Potential pathways	Proposed controls
Operation			
Odour	New anaerobic pond	Air/windborne pathway	Pond inlet will be submerged at mid-water depth to minimise odour and surface crust disruption. Existing blood and solids removal infrastructure (screw press and sump) in place to prevent them entering wastewater treatment system. Regular inspections to assess odour strength. If abnormally offensive, immediately notify management and attempt to rectify issue. Trapped overflow (T-piece) to prevent carry-over of surface floating matter. Pond to be constructed with at least 10 m access all around its perimeter to enable vehicle access for future desludging activities, to improve wastewater quality and reduce potential for odour.
Wastewater / leachate	New anaerobic pond – overtopping of pond	Soil (agricultural land use). Infiltration to groundwater.	Minimum capacity of 4,819.5 m^3 (excluding minimum freeboard (500 mm from top of embankment to outlet pipe) volume). Outlet pipe installed at 500 mm below top of embankment. Static water level to be maintained at 500 mm below top of embankment. Daily checks of inlet and outlet structures, pipes and pumps to ensure there are no blockages or leaks.
	New anaerobic pond – seepage through base of pond	Infiltration to groundwater	Base of pond will meet a minimum permeability of 1 x 10^{-9} m/s with either a clay liner or HDPE liner.

4.1.2 Receptors

In accordance with the *Guidance Statement: Risk Assessment* (DER 2017), the Delegated Officer has excluded employees, visitors and contractors of the applicant's from its assessment. Protection of these parties often involves different exposure risks and prevention strategies, and is provided for under other state legislation.

Table 4 provides a summary of potential human and environmental receptors that may be impacted as a result of activities upon or emission and discharges from the prescribed premises *(Guidance Statement: Environmental Siting* (DER 2016)).

Table 4: Sensitive human and environmental receptors and distance from proposed anaerobic pond

Human receptors	Approximate distance
Rural residential (zoned as regional rural)	1 km SSE, 1.5 km E and 1.8 km ESE of proposed anaerobic pond
Environmental receptors	**Distance from prescribed activity**
Agricultural land (cropping and livestock)	Immediately surrounding premises

Karri Groundwater area / underlying groundwater (used for non-potable purposes)	Groundwater depth and flow direction is unknown at the premises, although local drilling by previous owners indicate the water table may be deeper than 30 m bgl. A groundwater bore 1.2 km south of the premises has a standing water level of approximately 10 m bgl. Regional groundwater quality is generally brackish to saline (1,650 – 30,250 mg/L) (Raper *et al*., 2014).
Soil	Soils are classified as the 'Dellyanine System' comprising a grey sandy duplex (shallow and deep), sandy gravel and red deep sandy duplex.
Beaufort River	3.4 km east of the premises
Threatened or priority flora:	Within 5 km of premises (none historically recorded within premises boundary): • *Adenanthos pungens subsp. Effuses* (threatened) • *Calandrinia sp. Piawaning* (P1) • *Conostylis setigera subsp. Dasys* (threatened) • *Regelia cymbifolia* (P4) • *Stylidium lepidum (Redcaps)* (P3) • *Stylidium rhipidium (Fan Triggerplant)* (P3)

4.2 Risk ratings

Risk ratings have been assessed in accordance with the *Guidance Statement: Risk Assessments* (DER 2017) for each identified emission source and takes into account potential source-pathway and receptor linkages as identified in Section 4.1. Where linkages are in-complete they have not been considered further in the risk assessment.

Where the applicant has proposed mitigation measures/controls (as detailed in Section 4.1), these have been considered when determining the final risk rating. Where the Delegated Officer considers the applicant's proposed controls to be critical to maintaining an acceptable level of risk, these will be incorporated into the works approval as regulatory controls.

Additional regulatory controls may be imposed where the applicant's controls are not deemed sufficient. Where this is the case the need for additional controls will be documented and justified in Table 5.

Works Approval W6452/2020/1 that accompanies this decision report authorises the construction of the new anaerobic pond and time-limited operations. The conditions in the issued Works Approval, as outlined in Table 5 have been determined in accordance with *Guidance Statement: Setting Conditions* (DER 2015).

A licence amendment application is required following the time-limited operational phase authorised under the works approval relating to emissions associated with the ongoing operation of the new anaerobic pond at the premises. A risk assessment for the operational phase has been included in this decision report, however licence conditions will not be finalised until the department assesses the licence amendment application.

Table 5: Risk assessment of potential emissions and discharges from the Premises during construction and operation

Risk Event					Risk rating[1] C = consequence L = likelihood	Reasoning	Regulatory controls (refer to conditions of granted instrument)
Source / Activities	**Potential emission**	**Potential pathways and impact**	**Receptors**	**Applicant controls**			
Construction							
Earthworks, construction of pond including vehicle movements	Fugitive dust Noise	Air/windborne pathway causing impacts to health and amenity.	Closest rural residential receptor located approximately 1 km SSE of proposed anaerobic pond.	Refer to section 4.1.1	C = Slight – minimal impacts to amenity at a local scale. L = Possible – the risk event could occur at some time. **Low Risk**	The Delegated Officer considers that the separation distance from the proposed location of the new anaerobic pond to the closest rural residential receptor is sufficiently large for there to be no adverse impact from noise or dust emissions from the construction of the pond. Additionally, construction is expected to be of short duration and limited to daylight hours. The *Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations 1997* (EP Noise Regulations) apply to noise emissions.	No additional regulatory controls.
Operation (including time-limited-operations)							
Operation of new anaerobic pond	Odour from high nutrient wastewater contained within the pond.	Air/windborne pathway causing impacts to health and amenity.	Closest rural residential receptor located approximately 1 km SSE of proposed anaerobic pond.	Refer to section 4.1.1	C = Minor – low level impact to amenity at a local scale. L = Possible – the risk event could occur at some time. **Medium Risk**	There is potential for offensive odour to be generated from the new anaerobic pond, particularly during start-up, due to ammonia (NH_3) and hydrogen sulphide (H_2S). However, the Delegated Officer considers that the separation distance between the source and potential receptors is sufficient noting that fugitive odour from the operations of the new anaerobic pond is not expected to be significant, particularly once operational, compared to existing abattoir operations onsite. Applicant proposed controls, such as the inlet pipe being submerged to minimise surface crust disruption, will be conditioned in the works approval.	Condition 1 – Infrastructure construction requirements Condition 6 – Infrastructure time limited operation requirements
	Wastewater with elevated nutrient, salt and BOD concentrations.	Seepage of wastewater through base of pond causing soil or groundwater .contamination	Soil Infiltration to groundwater (approximately >10 mbgl).	Refer to section 4.1.1	C = Moderate – mid level onsite and low level offsite (local scale) impacts. L = Unlikely – the risk event will probably not occur in most circumstances. **Medium Risk**	The applicant has committed to constructing or installing a liner (clay or HDPE) that meets a minimum permeability of 1 x 10^{-9} m/s. This is consistent with the recommendation in Water Quality Protection Note 39 (WQPN 39), *Ponds for stabilising organic matter* (DoW 2009) and WQPN 27 *Liners for containing pollutants, using engineered soils* (DoW 2013). As the applicant has not given an indication on whether a clay liner or HDPE liner will be constructed / installed, the infrastructure requirements condition in the works approval will specify the construction / installation requirements for the liner and that the liner, once installed, must meet a minimum permeability of 1 x 10^{-9} m/s across the entire pond. The liner requirements are consistent with WQPN 26 and WQPN 27.	Condition 1 – Infrastructure construction requirements Condition 6 – Infrastructure time limited operation requirements
		Overtopping event resulting in a direct discharge to land causing adverse impacts to soil and groundwater.	Soil (agricultural land use) Infiltration to groundwater (approximately >10 mbgl).	Refer to section 4.1.1	C = Moderate – mid level onsite and low level offsite (local scale) impacts. L = Unlikely – the risk event will probably not occur in most circumstances. **Medium Risk**	The applicant has committed to the static water level in the pond being 500 mm below the top of embankment of the pond, which is equivalent to the location of the outlet pipe. WQPN 27 and WQPN 26 *Liners for containing pollutants, using synthetic membranes* (DoW 2013) both recommend a minimum freeboard of 500 mm to prevent unintended overflow of water from storm events and wave action from wind. Freeboard is the distance between the maximum water surface elevations and the top of retaining banks or structure at their lowest point. As this pond is connected in series, and is not a final holding pond, a condition will be added to the works approval for a freeboard of 500 mm to be maintained during operation of the pond. This is to minimise the risk of wastewater overtopping the pond due to rainfall and wave action.	Condition 1 – Infrastructure construction requirements Condition 6 – Infrastructure time limited operation requirements

Note 1: Consequence ratings, likelihood ratings and risk descriptions are detailed in the *Guidance Statement: Risk Assessments* (DER 2017).

5. Decision

The Delegated Officer has determined, subject to regulatory controls outlined in Table 5, that the construction and operation of the new anaerobic pond does not present an unacceptable risk of impacts to human health or the environment.

The applicant's proposed containment infrastructure (pond) design controls will be conditioned in the works approval to manage the risk associated with a release of wastewater with elevated nutrient, salt and BOD content to ground. These controls align with guidance in WQPN 26, 27 and 39 and include the installation of a submerged inlet pipe, trapped T-piece and low permeability HDPE liner to prevent seepage. Compliance reporting requirements will be conditioned to ensure all new infrastructure is installed or constructed as per the specified design requirements. In addition, general reporting, record keeping and administration requirements will be conditioned to ensure compliance with the works approval.

Time limited operations are permitted for a period of 180 days to enable the applicant to bring the new pond online. During this period, the applicant may submit a licence amendment application for the continued operation of the new anaerobic pond under Licence L6826/1994/13.

Operational requirements for the secondary anaerobic pond are defined in condition 6 of the works approval. The water quality monitoring program proposed by the applicant has not been specified in the works approval as monitoring of treated wastewater quality at the final treatment pond discharge point is required under condition 16 of the existing licence L6826/1994/13.

6. Consultation

Table 6 provides a summary of the consultation undertaken by the department.

Table 6: Consultation

Consultation method	Comments received	Department response
Application advertised on the department's website on 26 October 2020	None received	N/A
Local Government Authority advised of proposal on 30 October 2020	None received	N/A
Applicant was provided with draft documents on 6 May 2021.	Comments received on 14 May 2021. Refer to Appendix 1.	Refer to Appendix 1.

7. Conclusion

Based on the assessment in this decision report, the Delegated Officer has determined that a works approval will be granted, subject to conditions commensurate with the determined controls and necessary for administration and reporting requirements.

References

1. Australian and New Zealand Environment and Conservation Council (ANZECC) and Agriculture and Resource Management Council of Australia and New Zealand (ARMCANZ) October 2000, *National Water Quality Management Strategy – Australian and New Zealand Guidelines for Fresh and Marine Water Quality*, Volume 1, The Guidelines, Chapters 1 to 7.
2. Department of Environment Regulation (DER) 2015, *Guidance Statement: Setting Conditions*, Perth, Western Australia.
3. Department of Water (DoW), August 2013, *Water Quality Protection Note (WQPN) 26 – Liners for containing pollutants, using synthetic membranes*, Perth, Western Australia.
4. Department of Water and Environment Regulation (DWER) November 2016 (Plain English version, December 2020), *Guidance Statement: Environmental Siting*, Perth, Western Australia.
5. DoW, August 2013, *WQPN 27 – Liners for containing pollutants, using engineered soils*, Perth, Western Australia.
6. DoW, February 2009, *WQPN 39 – Ponds for stabilising organic matter*, Perth Western Australia.
7. DWER February 2017 (Plain English version, December 2020), *Guidance Statement: Risk Assessments*, Perth, Western Australia.
8. National Water Quality Management Strategy 1997, *Australian Guidelines for Sewerage Systems – Effluent management*, Agriculture and Resource Management Council of Australia and New Zealand and Australian and New Zealand Environment and Conservation Council.
9. Raper, GP, Speed, RJ, Simons, JA, Killen, AL, Blake, AI, Ryder, AT, Smith, RH, Stainer, GS and Bourke, L 2014, *Groundwater trend analysis for south-west Western Australia 2007–12*, Resource management technical report 388, Department of Agriculture and Food, Western Australia, Perth.

Appendix 1: Summary of applicant's comments on risk assessment and draft conditions

Condition	Summary of applicant's comment	Department's response
Condition 7 of the works approval	The condition states "or within 30 calendar days before the expiration date of the works approval". On what calendar date does the works approval expire?	The standard duration of a works approval is 3 years. The commencement and expiry dates are not specified on the draft works approval; however, they are specified on the final documents.
Section 3.3. of decision report	The applicant confirmed that one anaerobic pond will be operational at a time, pending desludging of the second anaerobic pond.	Relevant sections of this decision report have been updated.
Section 3.3 of decision report	The applicant has provided amended expected results after treatment (Table 1) for the parameters TSS, total aluminium, TN and TP. The amended expected result (changed from <30 to <40 mg/L) for TSS is based on Table 9.4.12 Summary of the recommended water quality guidelines for suspended solids and turbidity (freshwater) in ANZECC 2000. The amended expected result (changed from 0 to 0.03 mg/L) for total aluminium is based on Table 9.4.14 Summary of the recommended water quality guidelines for aluminium (freshwater at pH>6.5) in ANZECC 2000. The applicant notes that total aluminium will only be included in the monitoring program if alum dosing is occurring at the wastewater treatment ponds. The amended expected result for total nitrogen (changed from <15 to 25-125 mg/L) and total phosphorus (changed from <2 to 0.8 – 12 mg/L) are based on Table 9.2.19 Agricultural irrigation water long-term trigger value guidelines for nitrogen and phosphorus. The applicant notes that to determine site specific values, prior to utilising the pond, the applicant will conduct a soil study of the irrigation areas to determine site-specific nutrient limits for the treated effluent. Nutrient application rates will be based on quantities of plant available nitrogen and phosphorus to promote healthy vegetation growth.	The irrigation of treated wastewater to land has not been reassessed in this decision report. Monitoring of the treated wastewater quality is required under condition 16 of the existing licence. Condition 11 of the existing licence includes nutrient loading rate limits for irrigation areas L1 and L2.
Section 5 of decision report	The applicant has confirmed that treated wastewater quality will be monitored at the final treatment pond as per condition 16 of the existing licence. Additionally, the applicant will monitor the quality of the wastewater entering the pond system.	Noted.

Condition	Summary of applicant's comment	Department's response
Condition 5 of the works approval	Can the Department please clarify what is meant by a 'licence for that item of infrastructure granted'?	Time limited operations of the proposed anaerobic pond is approved under the works approval, for a period of 180 calendar days from the day the requirements of condition 4 are met; or until a licence (or licence amendment) is granted to include the operation of the proposed anaerobic pond.

Appendix 2: Application validation summary

SECTION 1: APPLICATION SUMMARY (as updated from validation checklist)		
Application type		
Works approval	☒	
Date application received		06/10/2020
Applicant and Premises details		
Applicant name/s (full legal name/s)		Ausvision Rural Services Pty Ltd
Premises name		Beaufort River Meats
Premises location		Lot 501 on Deposit Plan 76610
Local Government Authority		Shire of Woodanilling
Application documents		
HPCM file reference number:		DWERDT347516 (Part 1), DWERDT347520 (Part 2)
Key application documents (additional to application form):		Shire of Woodanilling Approval Environmental Commissioning Plan
Scope of application/assessment		
Summary of proposed activities or changes to existing operations.		The applicant is proposing to construct one new anaerobic pond. This pond will be the second anaerobic pond at the premises and will enable continued treatment of abattoir wastewater while the existing anaerobic pond can be taken offline for dewatering and desludging (which has not occurred for over 10 years, as identified in a recent compliance inspection). The new pond will have a ground surface footprint of 42 x 42 m with a depth of up to 5 m and capacity to treat up to 240 m^3 of wastewater per day. Prior to construction, the applicant plans to fell two trees in the proposed pond area. There are no proposed changes to the quality or quantity of treated and discharged wastewater.

Category number/s (activities that cause the premises to become prescribed premises)

Table 1: Prescribed premises categories

Prescribed premises category and description	Assessed production or design capacity	Proposed changes to the production or design capacity
Category 15	34,675 tonnes per annual period	No change
Category 55	825,000 animals per annual period	No change

Legislative context and other approvals		
Has the applicant referred, or do they intend to refer, their proposal to the EPA under Part IV of the EP Act as a significant proposal?	Yes ☐ No ☒	Referral decision No: Managed under Part V ☐ Assessed under Part IV ☐
Does the applicant hold any existing Part IV Ministerial Statements relevant to the application?	Yes ☐ No ☒	Ministerial statement No: EPA Report No:
Has the proposal been referred and/or assessed under the EPBC Act?	Yes ☐ No ☒	Reference No:

Has the applicant demonstrated occupancy (proof of occupier status)?	Yes ☒ No ☐	Certificate of title ☒ General lease ☐ Expiry: Mining lease / tenement ☐ Expiry: Other evidence ☐ Expiry:
Has the applicant obtained all relevant planning approvals?	Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A ☐	Approval: Shire Planning Approval BA567 / A619 Expiry date: If N/A explain why?
Has the applicant applied for, or have an existing EP Act clearing permit in relation to this proposal?	Yes ☐ No ☒	CPS No: N/A The applicant has proposed the clearing of two mature trees is exempt under Regulation 5, Item 1 of the *Environmental Protection (Clearing of Native Vegetation) Regulations 2004*.
Has the applicant applied for, or have an existing CAWS Act clearing licence in relation to this proposal?	Yes ☐ No ☒	Application reference No: N/A Licence/permit No: N/A No clearing is proposed.
Has the applicant applied for, or have an existing RIWI Act licence or permit in relation to this proposal?	Yes ☐ No ☒	Application reference No: Licence/permit No: Licence / permit not required.
Does the proposal involve a discharge of waste into a designated area (as defined in section 57 of the EP Act)?	Yes ☐ No ☒	Name: N/A Type: Proclaimed Groundwater Area/Surface Water Area Has Regulatory Services (Water) been consulted? Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A ☒
Is the Premises situated in a Public Drinking Water Source Area (PDWSA)?	Yes ☐ No ☒	Name: N/A Priority: P1 / P2 / P3 / N/A Are the proposed activities/ landuse compatible with the PDWSA (refer to WQPN 25)? Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A ☒
Is the Premises subject to any other Acts or subsidiary regulations (e.g. *Dangerous Goods Safety Act 2004, Environmental Protection (Controlled Waste) Regulations 2004, State Agreement Act xxxx*)	Yes ☐ No ☒	
Is the Premises within an Environmental Protection Policy (EPP) Area?	Yes ☐ No ☒	
Is the Premises subject to any EPP requirements?	Yes ☐ No ☒	
Is the Premises a known or suspected contaminated site under the *Contaminated Sites Act 2003*?	Yes ☐ No ☒	Classification: N/A Date of classification: N/A