



Application for Works Approval Amendment

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

Works Approval Number	W6696/2022/1
Works Approval Holder	Inghams Enterprises Pty Ltd
ACN	008 447 345
File Number	DER2022/000279
Premises	Inghams Enterprises Pty Ltd 9 Baden Street Legal description - Lot 68 on Diagram 98482 Osborne Park WA 6017 Certificate of Title Volume 2172 Folio 927
Date of Report	21 October 2024
Decision	Revised works approval granted

Amendment description

This amendment to Works Approval W6696/2022/1 is made pursuant to section 59 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986 (EP Act) to amend the existing works approval issued under the EP Act for a prescribed premises as set out below. This notice of amendment is hereby given under section 59B(9) of the EP Act.

The amendment is limited only to extending the expiry date of Time Limited Operations (TLO) following the completion of construction works related to the wastewater treatment system. This change is associated with activities performed under Category 15: Abattoir.

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 <https://dwer.wa.gov.au/regulatory-documents>.

Amendment application summary

On 12 September 2024, Inghams Enterprises Pty Ltd (the Works Approval Holder) submitted an application to the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (the Department/DWER) to amend Works Approval W6696/2022/1 under section 59 and 59B of the EP Act. The application seeks to extend the duration of TLO until 11 January 2026 to allow time to install and commission the replacement balance tank of the new wastewater treatment system at the Inghams Osbourne Park abattoir (the Premises). It should be noted that W6696/2022/1 expires on 15 January 2026.

Background

The Premises has been in its current location for approximately 50 years. The assessed production capacity of the Premise under EP Act Operational Licence L7477/2001/9 is for not more than 50,000 tonnes per annual period of live bird weight which produces approximately 37,500 tonnes of chicken meat and approximately 12,500 tonnes of chicken bi-product waste per year.

In addition to these wastes, large amounts of wastewater are generated at the Premises and requires partial disposal to the sewer. The Premises wastewater is required to be treated to approved water quality criteria before being discharged to sewer, to prevent shocks to the system.

On 22 June 2022 the Works Approval Holder applied to the department for a works approval to upgrade their wastewater treatment and recycling plant (WTRP). Works Approval W6696/2022/1 was granted by the department on 16 January 2023. The WTRP, which comprises an odour control system, a wastewater treatment system, a brackish water reverse osmosis system and a recycled water reuse system is capable of processing approximately 1700kL per day of incoming effluent derived from the abattoir operations at the Premises. Following treatment, up to 900kL per day is allowed to be discharged into the water corporation sewer meaning that up to 800kL needs to be either stored or reused on site.

On 11 December 2023 the Works Approval Holder provided DWER the Environmental Compliance Report (ECR) and the Critical Containment Infrastructure Report (CCIR) as required by conditions 4 and 6 of W6696/2022/1 for all infrastructure constructed/installed under conditions 1 and 2 of W6696/2022/1 with the exclusion of the wastewater balance tank. The Works Approval Holder reported that the balance tank which is a component of the wastewater treatment system and considered critical containment infrastructure failed on 1 November 2023 and therefore could not be used as part of the new wastewater treatment system. The pre-existing balance tank was therefore used to support the operation of all other newly installed components of the WTRP. In accordance with Condition 7 of W6696/2022/1, TLO of all other components of the WTRP commenced on 11 January 2024. As Condition 8 of W6696/2022/1

approves the Works Approval Holder to conduct TLO for items of infrastructure specified in conditions 1 and 2 for up to 365 calendar days, TLO will expire on 11 January 2025.

An application to amend Works Approval W6696/2022/1 was received by the department on 12 September 2024. The application seeks only to extend the duration of TLO until 11 January 2026 to allow time for the installation, commissioning and operation of the replacement balance tank of the new wastewater treatment system

The Department has been informed that the installation of a replacement new balance tank commenced on 16 September 2024 with commissioning likely to commence mid-December and completed by the end of January 2025.

Risk assessment

As no changes to emissions were identified, no further risk assessment is required.

Consultation

The Works Approval Holder was provided with the draft amendment on 25 September 2024. On 14 October 2024, the Works Approval Holder suggested minor amendments to the decision report. The Delegated Officer has considered these minor amendments and has updated the decision report accordingly.

Decision

The Delegated Officer notes that the only remaining infrastructure of the wastewater treatment system to be installed is the balance tank. The Delegated Officer understands that the newly replaced balance tank is a critical item for the water treatment system to operate effectively and commissioning of the tank will commence mid-December 2024 with completion of commissioning expected by the end of January 2025. In response to this, the Delegated Officer considers that an extension of TLO is to be granted to allow operation, essential monitoring and adjustment to the completed wastewater system within a new TLO period.

However, the Delegated Officer notes that the balance tank is the final and only component of the WTRP to be installed and commissioned and that all other components of the WTRP have been commissioned and their associated ECR and CCIR reports have been provided to the Department. Therefore, as the installation and commissioning of balance tank is expected to be completed by mid-December 2024, the Delegated Officer considers TLO may commence following submission of the CCIR for the balance tank, with the new TLO expiring on 30 April 2025. In addition to this, the Delegated Officer considers the report required by condition 13 of W6696/2022/1 should be provided to the department within 90 days of completion of TLO to allow for the Works Approval Holder to submit the necessary documentation to include the infrastructure of the new WTRP to the Premises Licence (L7477/2001/9).

The Delegated Officer has determined to make the above amendments to Works Approval W6696/2022/1. The amendments are essentially administrative in nature therefore they do not alter the risk profile of the Premises, providing that activities, emissions and receptors as stated in existing approvals remain unchanged.

The proposed amendments are highlighted below and will act as a record of implemented changes. All proposed changes have been incorporated into the Revised Works Approval as part of the amendment process.

8. *The works approval holder may conduct time limited operations for ~~an item of~~ infrastructure specified in conditions 1 and 2 (as applicable):*

- (a) ~~for a period not exceeding 365 calendar days from the day the works approval holder meets the requirements of condition 7 for that item of infrastructure:~~ for a period not extending beyond 30 April 2025; or
- (b) until such time as a licence for that item of infrastructure is granted in accordance with Part V of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*, if one is granted before the end of the period ~~date as~~ specified in condition 8 (a).

13. The works approval holder must submit to the CEO a report on the time limited operations within ~~180~~ 90 calendar days after completion of the time limited operations. ~~or 30 calendar days before the expiration date of the works approval, whichever is the sooner~~

References

1. *Department of Environment Regulation (DER) 2015, Guidance Statement: Setting Conditions, Perth, Western Australia.*
2. *DWER 2020, Guideline: Risk Assessments, Perth, Western Australia.*
3. Environmental Compliance Report – *Purchase Order 972905, Certificate of Compliance – Osborne Park Advanced Wastewater Recycling Plant* (Mak Water, 8 December 2023)
4. Critical Containment Infrastructure Report – *Purchase Order 972905, Certificate of Compliance – Osborne Park Advanced Wastewater Recycling Plant* (Mak Water, 8 December 2023)
5. Application for Works Approval Amendment signed 4 September 2024 – submitted to DWER on 12 September 2024