



Licence

Environmental Protection Act 1986, Part V

Licensee: GR Atwell Pty Ltd

Licence: L8656/2012/1

Registered office: 155 Spencer Street
BUNBURY WA 6230

ACN: 009 386 592

Premises address: Welldon Beef
531 Glenfield Road
WILLIAMS WA 6391
Being Part of Lot 13987 on Plan 205768 and Part of Lot 5371 on Plan 117798

Issue date: Thursday, 4 October 2012

Commencement date: Thursday, 4 October 2012

Expiry date: Saturday, 3 October 2026

Prescribed premises category

Schedule 1 of the Environmental Protection Regulations 1987

Category number	Category description	Category production or design capacity	Approved Premises production or design capacity
1	Cattle feedlot: premises on which the watering and feeding of cattle occurs, being premises- (a) situated less than 100 metres from a watercourse; and (b) on which the number of cattle per hectare exceeds 50.	500 animals or more	2,500 animals

Conditions

This Licence is subject to the conditions set out in the attached pages.

.....
Officer delegated under section 20
of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*



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Introduction

This Introduction is not part of the Licence conditions.

DWER's industry licensing role

The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) is a government department for the state of Western Australia in the portfolio of the Minister for Environment. DWER's purpose is to advise on and implement strategies for a healthy environment for the benefit of all current and future Western Australians.

DWER has responsibilities under Part V of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (the Act) for the licensing of prescribed premises. Through this process DWER works with the business owners, community, consultants, industry and other representatives to prevent, control and abate pollution and environmental harm to conserve and protect the environment. DWER also monitors and audits compliance with works approvals and licence conditions, takes enforcement action as appropriate and develops and implements licensing and industry regulation policy.

Licence requirements

This Licence is issued under Part V of the Act. Conditions contained within the Licence relate to the prevention, reduction or control of emissions and discharges to the environment and to the monitoring and reporting of them.

Where other statutory instruments impose obligations on the Premises/Licensee the intention is not to replicate them in the licence conditions. You should therefore ensure that you are aware of all your statutory obligations under the Act and any other statutory instrument. Legislation can be accessed through the State Law Publisher website using the following link:

<http://www.slp.wa.gov.au/legislation/statutes.nsf/default.html>

For your Premises relevant statutory instruments include but are not limited to obligations under the:

- Environmental Protection (Unauthorised Discharges) Regulations 2004 – these Regulations make it an offence to discharge certain materials such as contaminated stormwater into the environment other than in the circumstances set out in the Regulations.
- Environmental Protection (Controlled Waste) Regulations 2004 - these Regulations place obligations on you if you produce, accept, transport or dispose of controlled waste.
- Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations 1997 – these Regulations require noise emissions from the Premises to comply with the assigned noise levels set out in the Regulations.

You must comply with your licence. Non-compliance with your licence is an offence and strict penalties exist for those who do not comply.



Licence holders are also reminded of the requirements of section 53 of the Act which places restrictions on making certain changes to prescribed premises unless the changes are in accordance with a works approval, licence, closure notice or environmental protection notice.

Licence fees

If you have a licence that is issued for more than one year, you are required to pay an annual licence fee prior to the anniversary date of issue of your licence. Non payment of annual licence fees will result in your licence ceasing to have effect meaning that it will no longer be valid and you will need to apply for a new licence for your Premises.

Ministerial conditions

If your Premises has been assessed under Part IV of the Act you may have had conditions imposed by the Minister for Environment. You are required to comply with any conditions imposed by the Minister.

Premises description and Licence summary

The Welldon beef feedlot has been operating at a small scale for 30 years. In 2006, the owners constructed a new feedlot that has a capacity of 1936 head (17.6 m² per animal stocking density); it was not constructed under a works approval. The stocking density is within the National Feedlot Accreditation Scheme accepted range of 9-25 m²/head. The Premises is located in the Shire of Williams, approximately 4.5 km east-southeast from the edge of the Williams town site. The closest sensitive receptor is a farmhouse, located approximately 1470 m west of the premises boundary.

The feedlot is located on the northern aspect in a landscape of long, gentle and undulating hill slopes and divides. Typical soil types in the area are clayey sands overlying granite rock. The feedlot is situated on shallow soils on a granitic ridge, with at least 20 m of solid granite present beneath the site. Average annual rainfall is 493 mm with the peak period between May and September. A number of watercourses intersect the premises, the closest being a minor non-perennial watercourse, located approximately 100 m to the south-west of the holding pens. The next closest watercourse is Fitts Creek, located approximately 1 km from the holding pens. Fitts Creek is a tributary of the Williams River which eventually flows into the Murray and the Peel Inlet.

The feedlot consists of 16 pens split between two rows. A 3 m concrete apron has been constructed in front of each of the feed bunks and around water troughs. A controlled drainage area has been established with catch drains present below each row of pens to capture and direct wastewater to the sedimentation and evaporation pond. The catch drains are lined with on-site clays with low permeability. The licensee currently has an active works approval (W5635/2014/1) improve the capacity to manage wastewater, including the construction of a sedimentation basin and increasing the size of the evaporation pond to 3 ML. This is in preparation for the eventually increasing the controlled drainage area and construction of additional feedlot pens.

An existing freshwater diversion bank directs all fresh water from upslope of the feedlot into a fresh water dam.

Following pen cleaning the manure is stockpiled on the Premises within the controlled drainage area. This solid waste may be removed from the Premises or applied onto paddock within the Premises for the production of crops, and accordingly the Licence includes a condition pertaining to the application of manure to land.

Dead animals are transported to a gravel pit approximately 3 km from the feedlot on Lot 5371 on Plan 117798. They are buried, covered with at least 500 mm of gravel and left to decompose. The gravel pit is assumed to have a very low permeability.

The main emissions and discharges that are likely to arise from the operation of the Welldon Beef Feedlot are odour, dust and the application of solid waste to land. Given the distance to the nearest sensitive receptors, any odour and dust that is produced through the operation of the feedlot are not expected to cause any nuisance. The application of solid waste to land is addressed through the Improvement Section of this licence.



This Licence is the result of a department-initiated amendment to extend the duration, to allow sufficient time for a detailed review to be undertaken.

The licences and works approvals issued for the Premises since 04/10/2012 are:

Instrument log		
Instrument	Issued	Description
L8656/2012/1	04/10/2012	Licence issued – for 2,000 animals
W5635/2014/1	13/06/2014	Works approval to increase the capacity of the evaporation pond and construction of sedimentation pond
L8656/2012/1	20/11/2014	Licence amended to REFIRE format and increase the Premises throughput to 2,5000 animals
L8656/2012/1	29/04/2016	Amendment by notice to extend the licence duration to 2023
L8656/2012/1	03/08/2023	CEO-initiated amendment to extend the licence duration by 12 months, to allow sufficient time for a detailed review to be undertaken
L8656/2012/1	05/07/2024	CEO-initiated amendment to extend the licence duration by a further 24 months, to allow sufficient time for a detailed review to be undertaken

Severance

It is the intent of these Licence conditions that they shall operate so that, if a condition or a part of a condition is beyond the power of this Licence to impose, or is otherwise *ultra vires* or invalid, that condition or part of a condition shall be severed and the remainder of these conditions shall nevertheless be valid to the extent that they are within the power of this Licence to impose and are not otherwise *ultra vires* or invalid.

END OF INTRODUCTION



Licence conditions

1 General

1.1 Interpretation

1.1.1 In the Licence, definitions from the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* apply unless the contrary intention appears.

1.1.2 For the purposes of this Licence, unless the contrary intention appears:

'Act' means the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*;

'Annual Audit Compliance Report' means a report submitted in a form approved by the CEO (relevant guidelines and templates may be available on the department's website);

'annual period' means the inclusive period from 1 July until 30 June in the following year;

'carcass' means the dead body of animal (cattle);

'code of practice for the storage and handling of dangerous goods' means the document titled 'Storage and handling of dangerous goods: Code of Practice' published by the Department of Mines and Petroleum, as amended from time to time;

'dangerous goods' has the meaning defined in the *Dangerous Goods Safety (Storage and Handling of Non-explosives) Regulations 2007*;

'CEO' for the purpose of correspondence means;

Director General
Department administering the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*
Locked Bag 10
JOONDALUP DC WA 6919
info@dwer.wa.gov.au

'environmentally hazardous material' means material (either solid or liquid raw materials, materials in the process of manufacture, manufactured products, products used in the manufacturing process, by-products and waste) which if discharged into the environment from or within the premises may cause pollution or environmental harm. Note: Environmentally hazardous materials include dangerous goods where they are stored in quantities below placard quantities. The storage of dangerous goods above placard quantities is regulated by the Department of Mines and Petroleum;

'evaporative pond' means a type of holding pond where the primary disposal mechanism of the effluent is by evaporation;

'feedlot' means all areas of the premises used for feed-lotting activities, including but not limited to laneways and pens;

'freeboard' means the distance between the maximum water surface elevations and the top of retaining banks or structures at their lowest point;

'fugitive emissions' means all emissions not arising from point sources identified in Sections 2.2, 2.3, 2.4 and 2.5;

'holding pond' means a pond designed to capture and store the normal runoff before the captured runoff is either applied to cropland or evaporated;



'in-situ soils' means soils that are in place and have not been moved from their original place of deposition;

'leachate' means liquid released by or water that has percolated through waste and which contains some of its constituents;

'Licence' means this Licence numbered L8656/2012/1 and issued under the Act;

'Licensee' means the person or organisation named as Licensee on page 1 of the Licence;

'National Guidelines' means the current version of *National Guidelines for Beef Cattle Feedlots in Australia*, as amended from time to time;

'NLAR' means Nutrient Limited Application Rate to be calculated based on the guidance provided in the National Guidelines for Beef Cattle Feedlots in Australia (as amended) ;

'Premises' means the area defined in the Premises Map in Schedule 1 and listed as the Premises address on page 1 of the Licence;

'Schedule 1' means Schedule 1 of this Licence unless otherwise stated;

'sedimentation system' means systems to remove the readily-settleable fraction of the solids entrained in effluent. This may include a pond, basin or terrace that discharges effluent to a holding pond;

'sludge' means any mud-like deposit or mixtures of faecal matter and spilt feed derived from the pens;

'solids' means any solid or spadeable faecal matter and spilt feed derived from the pens; and

'wastewater treatment system' means a wastewater and effluent management system consisting of catch drain and evaporative pond;

1.1.3 Any reference to an Australian or other standard in the Licence means the relevant parts of the standard in force from time to time during the term of this Licence.

1.1.4 Any reference to a guideline or code of practice in the Licence means the version of that guideline or code of practice in force from time to time, and shall include any amendments or replacements to that guideline or code of practice made during the term of this Licence.

1.2 General conditions

1.2.1 Nothing in the Licence shall be taken to authorise any emission that is not mentioned in the Licence, where the emission amounts to:

- (a) pollution;
- (b) unreasonable emission;
- (c) discharge of waste in circumstances likely to cause pollution; or
- (d) being contrary to any written law.

1.2.2 The Licensee shall operate and maintain all pollution control and monitoring equipment to the manufacturer's specification or any relevant and effective internal management system.

1.2.3 The Licensee, except where storage is prescribed in section 1.3, shall ensure that environmentally hazardous materials are stored in accordance with the code of practice for the storage and handling of dangerous goods.

1.2.4 The Licensee shall immediately recover, or remove and dispose of spills of environmentally hazardous materials outside an engineered containment system.



1.2.5 The Licensee shall implement all practical measures to prevent stormwater run-off becoming contaminated by the feedlot activities on the Premises.

1.3 Premises operation

1.3.1 The licensee shall ensure that all wastewaters from feedlot operations including wash down water, by-products wastewater and contaminated run-off are directed to a wastewater treatment system.

1.3.2 The Licensee shall ensure that waste material is only stored and/ or treated within vessels or compounds provided with the infrastructure detailed in Table 1.3.1.

Table 1.3.1: Containment infrastructure		
Structure	Material	Infrastructure requirements
Catch drains	Contaminated stormwater; Wastewater	Lined with insitu soils
Evaporative pond	Wastewater	Lined with in-situ soils and designed to capture a 1 in 20 ARI rainfall event.
Feedlot pens	Cattle	Lined with in-situ soils and located within the controlled drainage area.
Burial pits	Carcasses	Lined with in-situ soils.
Solids stockpile storage area	Manure	Lined with in-situ soils and located within the controlled drainage area

1.3.3 The Licensee shall manage the evaporation pond such that:

- (a) overtopping of the ponds does not occur;
- (b) a minimum top of embankment freeboard of at least 900 mm is maintained;
- (c) the integrity of the containment infrastructure is maintained;
- (d) trapped overflows are maintained on the outlet of ponds to prevent carry-over of surface floating matter; and
- (e) vegetation and floating debris (emergent or otherwise) is prevented from encroaching onto pond surfaces or inner pond embankments.

1.3.4 The Licensee shall ensure that waste types specified in Table 1.3.2 are managed in accordance with the requirements in Table 1.3.2 unless they are taken off-site for lawful use or disposal.

Table 1.3.2: Management of Waste		
Waste type	Disposal strategy	Operational requirements
Treated wastewater	Evaporation	None specified
Carcass	On-site burial	(i) Burial pits shall be located at least 100 m from any watercourse, wetland or external property boundary; (ii) Bottom of the burial pit shall be at least 2 metres above seasonal high water table; and (iii) Carcasses shall be covered with at least 500 mm of soil immediately upon deposit.
Feedlot solids	On-site application to land	(i) Solids and sludge derived from the feedlot shall be disposed of evenly by means of a mechanical spreader; (ii) Feedlot solids shall only be applied to land that is a minimum of 1 metre above the winter groundwater table; (iii) Application of feedlot solids shall not occur within 100 metres of a watercourse or wetland; and



		(iv)	Quantity of feedlot solids applied directly to land per hectare does not exceed the NLAR for a particular soil type, crop type, crop use and feedlot solids composition.
Feedlot solids, pond sludge	Stockpiling	(i) (ii)	Leachate from stockpile area shall not enter the environment; and Stockpiles shall be managed so as to avoid offensive odour generation.

2 Emissions

2.1 General

2.1.1 The Licensee shall record and investigate the exceedance of any descriptive or numerical limit or target specified in any part of section 2 of this Licence.

2.2-2.4 Point source emissions to air, surface water and groundwater

There are no specified conditions relating to point source emissions to air, surface water and groundwater in this section.

2.5 Emissions to land

There are no specified conditions relating to emissions to land in this section.

2.6 Fugitive emissions

2.6.1 The Licensee shall use all reasonable and practical measures to prevent and where that is not practicable to minimise dust emissions from the Premises.

2.7 Odour

2.7.1 The Licensee shall ensure that odour emitted from the Premises does not unreasonably interfere with the health, welfare, convenience, comfort or amenity of any person who is not on the Premises.

2.8 Noise

There are no specified conditions relating to noise in this section.

3 Monitoring

There are no specified conditions relating to monitoring in this section.

4 Improvements

4.1 Improvement program

4.1.1 The Licensee shall complete the improvements in Table 4.1.1 by the date of completion in Table 4.1.1.

4.1.2 The Licensee, for improvements not specifically requiring a written submission, shall write to the CEO stating whether and how the Licensee is compliant with the improvement within one week of the completion date specified in Table 4.1.1.



Table 4.1.1 Improvement program

IR Reference Number	Improvement requirement	Timeframe
IR1	<p>The Licensee shall submit to the CEO a Solids Application to Land Assessment Report. The Report shall include but not be limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) A preliminary assessment which clearly identifies maximum rate at which the feedlot solids can be applied to land based on the soil vulnerability category as per Table 5 of the Guidelines for the Environmental Management of Beef Cattle Feedlots in Western Australia, July 2002, Published by the Department of Agriculture; (ii) A map identifying location and dimensions of existing solids application area, in hectares; and (iii) Details of management actions which will be taken to ensure that the feedlot solids application rate at the premises does not exceed the maximum allowable rate calculated in (i). 	12 months
IR 2	<p>The Licensee shall submit to the CEO an Irrigation Assessment Report. The Report shall include but not be limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) A preliminary assessment to determine the minimum area required for irrigation, based on the soil-limiting hydraulic loading and nutrient loading; (ii) A map detailing location and dimensions of existing area under irrigation, in hectares; and (iii) Details of proposed actions to be taken in the event that existing irrigation area is lesser than the minimum required area calculated based on (i). 	60 days prior to irrigation
IR3	<p>In the event that the Licensee intends to undertake application of feedlot solids and wastewater to the same area, the Licensee shall submit to the CEO a Nutrient Management Report which accounts for cumulative nutrient loading from all sources including application of manure, wastewater and chemical fertilisers, which may be applied to the approved solid/ liquid land application area on the Premises. The Report shall include but not be limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Nutrient balance which clearly identifies availability of nutrients from each source, crop uptake rates, soil storage capacity and environmental loss during the assessment year and accounts for any nutrient credits for following years; (ii) Detailed assessment of total nutrient application rate to the existing land application area on the premises (t/ha/year) based on (i); (iii) Qualitative and quantitative risk assessment to determine acceptable nutrient application rate to minimise potential of soil, surface water and groundwater contamination; and (iv) Details of proposed management measures (if applicable) including timelines, to be implemented to reduce the risk of potential environmental impacts that may occur as a result of exceeding the recommended nutrient loading rates specified in part (iii). 	60 days prior to irrigation



5 Information

5.1 Records

5.1.1 All information and records required by the Licence shall:

- (a) be legible;
- (b) if amended, be amended in such a way that the original and subsequent amendments remain legible or are capable of retrieval;
- (c) except for records listed in 5.1.1(d) be retained for at least 6 years from the date the records were made or until the expiry of the Licence or any subsequent licence; and
- (d) for those following records, be retained until the expiry of the Licence and any subsequent licence:
 - (i) off-site environmental effects; or
 - (ii) matters which affect the condition of the land or waters.

5.1.2 The Licensee shall ensure that:

- (a) any person left in charge of the Premises is aware of the conditions of the Licence and has access at all times to the Licence or copies thereof; and
- (b) any person who performs tasks on the Premises is informed of all of the conditions of the Licence that relate to the tasks which that person is performing.

5.1.3 The Licensee must:

- (a) undertake an audit of their compliance with the condition of this Licence during the preceding annual period; and
- (b) prepare and submit to the CEO, by no later than 1 September in each year, an Annual Audit Compliance Report in the approved form.

5.1.4 The Licensee shall implement a complaints management system that as a minimum records the number and details of complaints received concerning the environmental impact of the activities undertaken at the Premises and any action taken in response to the complaint.

5.2 Reporting

5.2.1 The Licensee shall submit to the CEO an Annual Environmental Report within 60 calendar days after the end of the annual period. The report shall contain the information listed in Table 5.2.1 in the format or form specified in that table.

Table 5.2.1: Annual Environmental Report

Condition or table	Parameter	Format or form
-	Summary of any failure or malfunction of any pollution control equipment and any environmental incidents that have occurred during the annual period and any action taken	None specified
-	Total number of animals held on the feedlot in a tabular format for each month and including annual total.	None specified
-	Total number of carcasses buried each month and including annual total.	None specified
-	Quantity of manure applied to land: (i) total tonnes applied; and (ii) average tonnes/ha for each application throughout the year.	None specified
-	Verification details on the applied feedlot solids NLAR	None specified
5.1.3	Compliance	AACR
5.1.4	Complaints summary	None specified



Schedule 1: Maps

Premises map

The Premises is shown in the map below. The red line depicts the Premises boundary.

