
BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT FOR THE PROPOSED EXPANSION OF DJ POTGIETER CATTLE FEEDLOT, FREE STATE PROVINCE



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ACRONYMS

BAR	Basic Assessment Report
BID	Background Information Document
CA	Competent Authority
DARDEA	Department of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environmental Affairs
DWS	Department of Water and Sanitation
EA	Environmental Authorisation
EAP	Environmental Assessment Practitioner
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
I&AP	Interested & Affected Party
NEMA	National Environmental Management Act
NWA	National Water Act
PPP	Public Participation Process
SAHRA	South African Heritage Resources Agency
VOCMA	Vaal Orange Catchment Management Agency

1 PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT



EMG has prepared this document to inform you about:

- The current understanding of the environmental and social conditions.
- Environmental impacts and proposed specialist studies.
- How you can have input into the Environmental Authorisation (EA) and relevant processes.

2 YOUR ROLE



You have been identified as an Interested and/or Affected Party (I&AP) who may want to be informed about the development and have input into the processes and environmental reports.



You have an opportunity to review this document and provide your initial comments to us for incorporation in the process.



Comments will be recorded and included in the reports submitted to the relevant authorities for decision-making.

3 PARTIES INVOLVED IN THE APPLICATION PROCESSES



I&APs



Surrounding landowners, land users and communities



Parastatals

3.1 KEY STAKEHOLDERS (other stakeholders may be identified during the Public Participations process)



Department of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environmental Affairs (DARDEA)



Metsimaholo Local Municipality (MLM)



Fezile Dabi District Municipality



Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS)



Vaal Orange Catchment Management Agency (VOCMA)



Department of Health



Department of Community Safety, Roads and Transport



South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA)



Cllr Sara Mapule Mofokeng- Ward 05



ESKOM



Telkom

3.2 LOCAL AUTHORITIES



Local Municipality: Metsimaholo Local Municipality



District Municipality: Fezile Dabi District Municipality

4 INTRODUCTION

Environmental Management Group (EMG) (Pty) Ltd was appointed by David Jacobus Potgieter to act as an independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to undertake the Environmental Authorisation application for the proposed cattle feedlot expansion, in the Free State Province. The application for Environmental Authorisation process is being undertaken in accordance with the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act no. 107 of 1998), as amended.

5 LOCALITY

The development is located on Brak Dam No. 700/1, Brak Dam No. 700/Re and Vaaldam Settlement No. 1777/26, within the jurisdiction of Metsimaholo Local Municipality, under Fezile Dabi District Municipality, Free State Province. The proposed site is located near the town of Oranjeville and traverses three farm portions, as indicated below.

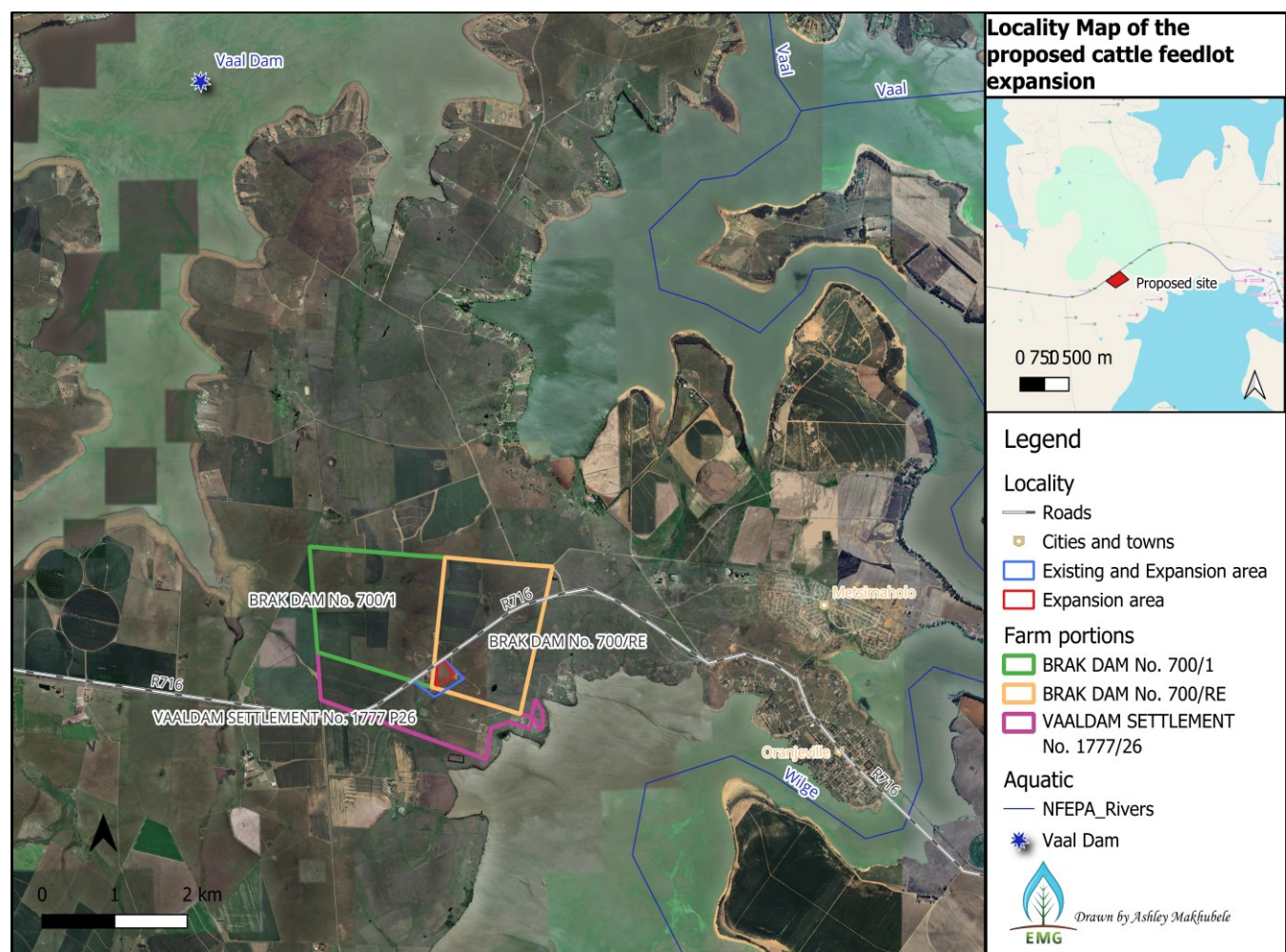


Figure 1: Locality map of the proposed site

6 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

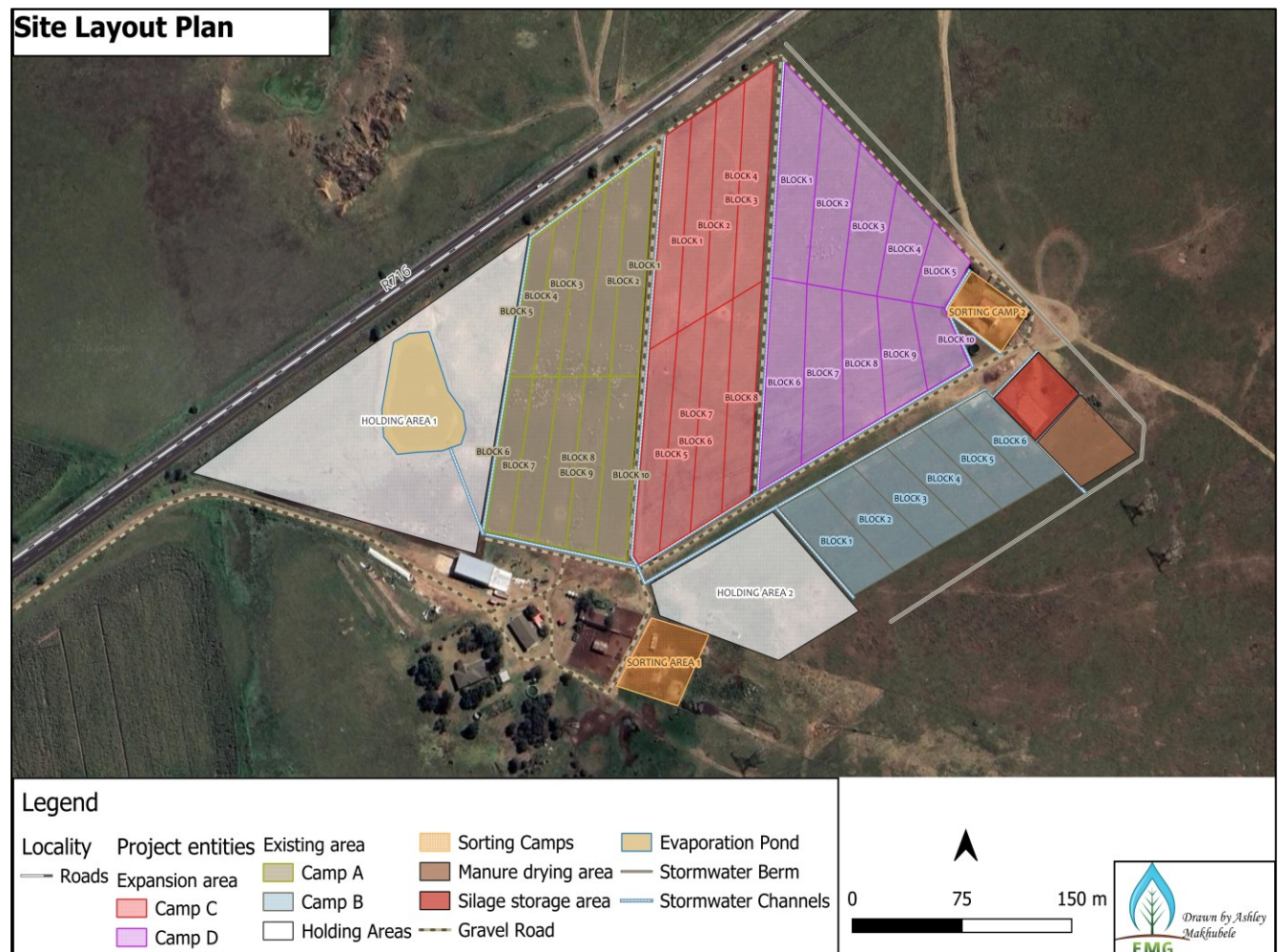


Figure 2: Site layout plan of the development

The proposed project involves the expansion by an additional 2 504 LSUs, increasing the total holding capacity to approximately 4054 LSUs. The existing feedlot's capacity will be increased by 161 LSUs, while the newly constructed feedlot will accommodate 2343 LSUs across 2 camps and 18 blocks. The expansion will be accommodated within the existing 99,000 m² (9.9 ha) active agricultural footprint through the reconfiguration and optimisation of the existing facility, and no increase in the overall feedlot surface area is proposed. Refer to Table 1 for the breakdown of the proposed expansion of LSU per feedlot pen

To support the increased livestock capacity, additional infrastructure will be constructed, including a feeding trough (feeding pan). The feeding infrastructure has been designed to provide 20 cm of feeding space per LSU, resulting in a total feeding length of 50 720 cm (507.2 m), ensuring adequate access to feed for all animals within the expanded facility.

Table 1: Proposed feedlot blocks per camp allocation, with designated physical area size per camp.

Feedlot camps	Feedlot no.	block	LSU per block	LSU per camp	Area of the camp (ha)
A		1	136	1070	1.98
		2	108		
		3	104		

	4	98		
	5	75		
	6	91		
	7	103		
	8	111		
	9	115		
	10	128		
B	1	122	624	1.19
	2	116		
	3	104		
	4	103		
	5	105		
	6	90		
C	1	129	1109	2.05
	2	131		
	3	137		
	4	145		
	5	135		
	6	146		
	7	145		
	8	140		
D	1	180	1234	2.28
	2	150		
	3	122		
	4	95		
	5	66		
	6	179		
	7	152		
	8	125		
	9	98		
	10	69		
TOTAL	34	4054		7.50

Specialist investigations will be compiled to assess for environmental implications pre- and post-development. These include:



Site Sensitivity and Terrestrial Ecology Compliance Statement Report



Heritage Impact Assessment

These will be distributed to registered I&APs during the commencement of the 30-day public participation process.

7 LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

7.1 Environmental Authorisation

Prior to the commencement of the proposed expansion, Environmental Authorisation in terms of the NEMA (Act No. 107 of 1998), A Basic Assessment Report (BAR) in accordance with the Regulations as

amended 07 April 2017 is required. The BAR must be submitted to the Competent Authority (CA), Department of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environmental Affairs (DARDEA).

According to the NEMA, Listing Notice 1 (GN R327) – the following activity(s) are applicable to this proposed project:

NEMA: Listing Notice 1 (GNR. 327, 07 APRIL 2017)

39	The expansion and related operation of facilities for the concentration of animals in densities that will exceed (i) 20 square metres per large stock unit, where the expansion will constitute more than 500 additional units.
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NB: Listing notices will be confirmed and finalised during the Draft BAR stage with DARDEA

7.2 Water Use License

Prior to the commencement of the development, A Water Use License in terms of the National Water Act (NWA), (Act No. 36 of 1998), as amended, a Water Use Licence Application, in accordance with the Regulations Regarding the Procedural Requirements for Water Use Licence Applications and Appeals (GN R 267), must be submitted to the CA: catchment management agency (Vaal Orange Catchment Management Agency - VOCMA).

According to the NWA, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998) as amended, the following activity(s) are applicable to this proposed project:

NWA: Section 21 (ACT NO.34 of 1998), as amended

(a)	Taking water from a water resource.
(b)	Storing water.
(c)	Impeding or diverting the flow of water in a watercourse.
(g)	Disposing of waste in a manner which may detrimentally impact on a water resource.

NB: Water uses will be confirmed through a pre-application process with DWS

8 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Public Participation Process (PPP) forms a fundamental part of the application for Environmental Authorisation.

In addition, inputs from the public, interested and affected groups are considered in the project development. As a result, a clear recording of issues raised, and comments made is maintained in a register of comments and responses. This register is updated as and when new comments and concerns are raised.

8.1 Environmental Authorisation PPP



Public meeting with I&APs and regulatory authorities (if required).

Submit application to DARDEA

Submit Draft BAR to DARDEA

Public & authority review of Draft BAR (30 calendar days).

Update of the Draft BAR with comments received during the review period.

Submit updated Final BAR to the competent authority.



- Review of the Final BAR by the competent authority.
- Circulate decision to I&APs on the project database.

Table 2: Summary of timeframes for the Basic Assessment Process

Process step	Responsible party	Estimated timeframe
1. Initial communication to clarify the application process with the authorising department	EMG	1 day
2. EAP to conduct a site investigation	EMG	1 day
3. EAP to arrange a pre-application meeting with the authorising department.	EMG	5 days
4. EAP to compile and submit an application for environmental authorisation to the competent authority	EMG	5 days
5. Authorising authority to formally recognise the application.	Authorising authority	14 days
6. EAP to undertake the BAR and compile a report (including specialist reports and draft EMP).	EMG	90 days
7. EAP to submit the final BAR report (inclusive of a 30-day PPP period) to the authorising authority.	EMG	1 day
8. Authorising authority to grant environmental authorisation.	Authorising authority	107 days
9. Environmental authorisation is subjected to a 20-day appeal period	EAP	20 days
10. Final approval of the environmental authorisation	Authorising authority	1 day

8.2 Water Use License public participation process

The WULA PPP will run concurrently with the EIA process in accordance with GN R 267, Regulations Regarding the Procedural Requirements for Water Use Licence Applications and Appeals Section 17(2) “Where a public participation process has already been undertaken through the Environmental Impact Assessment Processes or any other public consultation process and that public participation process contains and covers all issues pertaining to water use activities, then that public participation process report may, subject to approval by the responsible authority, be submitted for the requirements of the water use licence application”. The following process will be followed in accordance with GN R267:



- Erect site notices.
- Placing of newspaper advert in one local newspaper.
- Public & authority commenting period of 60 calendar days.

Table 3: Summary of timeframes for receiving and steps in processing of a water use license application

Regulation	Steps in processing of WULA	Maximum Days allocated	Cumulative days	Responsible
0	Pre-application enquiry	0	0	EMG & VOCMA
1	Application submitted	1	1	EMG
2	Responsible authority acknowledges receipt of the application	10	11	VOCMA

3	Applicant confirms arrangements for site inspection with an allocated case officer	5	16	EMG
4	Site inspection to confirm water uses, determine information requirements and the need for public participation	20	36	EMG & VOCMA
5	Confirm requirements for water use licence application technical report based on site visit and meeting	5	41	VOCMA
6	Compilation, consultation and submission of water use licence application technical report by applicant	105	146	EMG
7	Reject / Accept water use licence application technical report	10	156	VOCMA
8	Assessment	139	295	VOCMA
9	Decision and communication to applicant	5	300	VOCMA

*In order to ensure that you are identified as an I&AP, individuals are requested to respond by submitting their complete contact details and any comment in writing to the details provided below. **Once registered, a notification will be sent for the availability of the Draft Basic Assessment Report for a thirty day (30) commenting period (in terms of NEMA). Sixty Days (60) is given for your comments/concerns on the Water Use License Application (National Water Act, 1998).***

All information will be available on the website provided below.

Contact person(s): Mhloti Ashley Makhubele

Tel: 051 011 4415

Email: mhloti@envmgrp.com

Website: www.envmgrp.com

**APPLICATION FOR PROPOSED EXPANSION OF DJ POTGIETER CATTLE FEEDLOT,
FREE STATE PROVINCE.
RESPONSE FORM FOR INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES**

Date			
Particulars of the I&AP			
Name			
Postal Address & Code			
Street Address & Code			
Telephone number			Cell phone no.
E-Mail Address			

Please Identify your Interest in the Proposed Project:

[illegible]

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