



Licence

Environmental Protection Act 1986, Part V

Licensee: Prime Meat Processors Pty Ltd

Licence: L6010/1989/13

Registered office: Paragon Consultants
First Floor
160 Stirling Highway
NEDLANDS WA 6009

ACN: 618 734 875

Premises address: Avon Valley Abattoir
Lot 1343 on Plan 246966
Northam-Pithara Road,
IRISHTOWN WA 6401 (as depicted in Schedule 1).

Issue date: Thursday, 21 April 2016

Commencement date: Tuesday 26 April 2016

Transfer date: Monday, 28 August 2017

Expiry date: Friday, 25 April 2036

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
15	Abattoir: premises on which animals are slaughtered.	1,000 tonnes or more per year	16,500 tonnes of livestock per year
16	Rendering Operation: premises on which substances from animal material are processed or extracted.	100 tonnes or more per year	3,744 tonnes per year
55	Livestock saleyard or holding pen: premises on which live animals are held pending their sale, shipment or slaughter.	10,000 animals or more per year	144,000 animals per year

Conditions

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

Date signed: 28 August 2017

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Paul Byrnes
Manager, Licensing (Process Industries)

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 regulates 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.

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

Prime Meat Processors is licensed as a Category 15 abattoir, Category 16 rendering operation, and a Category 55 livestock saleyard or holding pens. The Premises are located on 110 acres of rural land at Mt Dick, Lot 1343 (on Plan 246966) Northam-Pithara Road, Irishtown.

The Premises are located approximately 4.5 kilometres north of the town of Northam and are surrounded by farmland. The nearest residence is approximately 450 metres east of the Premises boundary and the next closest neighbours are located 1.2km to the north and north-west.

The Mortlock River North Branch is located 560 m east of the Premises boundary and 860m from the wastewater ponds. The River is fed by drainage lines traversing the property and it is an ephemeral tributary of the Avon River that only flows after significant rainfall events.

According to the Statewide Soil database, soils on the Premises consist of gneissic rock outcrops with predominant hard neutral red soils. The former occupier noted heavy clay soils to a depth of 1.5 to 2 m, interspersed with shale iron stone rock. Lower points on the Premises have shallow sandy topsoils over heavy clay. The underlying groundwater is identified as the Avon River Basin.

Operations:

Category 15: Abattoir:

The abattoir has been assessed at a maximum design capacity of 16,500 tonnes per annum. The abattoir operations include the slaughtering and processing of livestock, where sheep were introduced for slaughter in September 2014.

Category 16: Rendering operations:

The rendering plant involves the rendering of animal by-products including blood. The rendering process includes a combination of grinding, cooking with steam, drawing off of fats and oils, evaporation and bagging the final product which consists of blood and bone meal. The fats and oils are screened and stored in a 70-tonne capacity holding tank and removed once an amount of 26 tonnes has been accumulated, which is usually after 10 days of production. The plant uses LPG and the discharge chimney is 12m high above ground level. The rendering plant has been assessed at a production capacity of 3,744 tonnes per year.

There are no odour controls on the rendering plant. Although the closest neighbour is within the recommended buffer distance of 1,000m, DWER has not received any complaints about odour, dust or noise relating to the activities on site.

Maintenance schedules include daily inspection and cleaning of infrastructure. In the event of a breakdown, solid wastes are stored in a skip bin and removed off-site to an authorised rendering plant. There has not been a breakdown of the rendering plant for over 10 years.

Category 55: Livestock saleyard:

The livestock saleyard receives and holds the animals in roofed pens which are directly adjacent to the abattoir and deliveries occur several times time a week. Traditionally, only cattle were held in the yard, until sheep were introduced for slaughter in September 2014. The animals are held for approximately 24 to 48 hours prior processing through the abattoir. The animals are not fed while



in the holding pens and both the holding pens and lairage are roofed and have concrete floors within a controlled drainage area. They are cleaned daily and the sorting pens are cleaned on an as-needed basis. Following the introduction of sheep to the saleyard for processing through the abattoir, the design capacity has increased.

The Premises operates five days a week (05:00 to 13:00, Monday to Friday) and employs approximately 22 staff. Other activities include tallow collection, animal blood collection, offal trimming, packaging and the dressing and chilling of carcasses. Products from the activities on site include cattle and sheep carcasses and hides, offal, meat, meat meal, tallow and blood meal.

Wastewater Treatment System:

Wastewater is generated during the wash down of the abattoir, lairage, holding pens and delivery trucks. The wash down water includes both solids and liquid waste which is directed to concrete save-all sumps covered by grates. The solids are screened and removed from the wastewater stream and sent to the rendering plant. The liquid portion is sent via PVC pipes to the wastewater treatment system on a daily basis where it undergoes biological treatment to a secondary level.

The treatment system consists of: two anaerobic ponds which operate in tandem, three aerobic ponds, and a banded sludge drying bed where leachate drains back into the pond system. All ponds are clay lined and the total capacity of the treatment system, allowing for one anaerobic pond offline, is 7,276m³. This does not include freeboard.

There are no bores on site or within 2km of the Premises and the abattoir and rendering plant use scheme water for all operations. In March 2012, one of the anaerobic ponds was taken offline for de-sludging. No groundwater was encountered down to a depth of 6 metres below ground level during excavation of the pond.

Irrigation of wastewater and spreading of solid wastes:

Approximately 5,000kL of treated wastewater from the final aerobic/evaporation pond is irrigated annually over an area of 10.7ha when the water level approaches the 500mm freeboard level. The Licensee provided a *Nutrient and Irrigation Management Plan* (NIMP) dated 12 September 2013 to DWER. The NIMP ensures that the irrigation of wastewater is carried out according to licence requirements.

Irrigated wastewater is pumped to six mobile sprinklers and irrigated over a designated area. The NIMP restricts the irrigation of wastewater within 50m of any defined watercourse or external Premises boundary. The occupier uses contour bunding to prevent irrigated wastewater from escaping beyond the designated area. The volume of wastewater is metered and recorded on a daily basis when irrigation occurs and samples are monitored on a quarterly basis to ensure that the nutrient loading does not impact on the irrigated areas.

Solid wastes:

- Manure is collected daily and spread on surrounding designated paddocks;
- Paunch material which consists of partially digested feed, is removed from the abattoir, kept on a banded hardstand, and allowed to dry prior spreading over a paddock south of the abattoir daily;
- The solid waste disposal areas for manure and paunch is spread over 12ha (see Schedule 1); and
- Sludge from the wastewater ponds is processed through the rendering facility prior to removal off site.

Transfer of Licence 2017:

On 28 August 2017, the Department transferred the Licence to Prime Meat Processors, incorporating minor administrative changes with the transfer, including:

- corrections to typographical errors;



- the removal of Schedule 2 – the Annual Audit Compliance Report (AACR) template where the new template can be found on DWER’s website www.dwer.wa.gov.au; and
- amendments to conditions which were consequential to the licence being transferred (removing references to the previous licensee and replacing them with a generic term or Prime Meat Processors).

There were no changes to the conditions of the licence relating to controlling emissions and discharges from the premises and as such, re-assessment of the licence did not occur at the time the licence was transferred.

The licences issued for the Premises include:

Instrument log		
Instrument	Issued	Description
L6010/1989/4	26/04/2000	Licence re-issue
L6010/1989/5	26/04/2001	Licence re-issue
L6010/1989/6	22/05/2002	Licence re-issue
L6010/1989/7	03/06/2003	Licence re-issue
L6010/1989/8	10/05/2004	Licence re-issue
L6010/1989/9	21/03/2005	Licence re-issue
L6010/1989/10	20/03/2006	Licence re-issue
L6010/1989/11	05/03/2010	Licence re-issue
L6010/1989/12	24/04/2013	Licence re-issue
L6010/1989/13	21/04/2016	Licence re-issue
L6010/1989/13	28/08/2017	Licence Transferred to Prime Meat Processors

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*;

‘AHD’ means the Australian height datum;

‘annual period’ means the inclusive period from 1 October to 30 September in the following year;

‘animal waste material’ means blood, bone, fat and condemned carcasses;

‘AS/NZS 5667.1’ means the Australian Standard AS/NZS 5667.1 *Water Quality – Sampling – Guidance of the Design of sampling programs, sampling techniques and the preservation and handling of samples*;



'AS/NZS 5667.10' means the Australian Standard AS/NZS 5667.10 *Water Quality – Sampling – Guidance on sampling of waste waters*;

'CEO' means Chief Executive Officer;

'CEO' for the purposes of notification means:

Director General
Department Administering the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*
Locked Bag 33
CLOISTERS SQUARE WA 6850
Email: info-der@dwer.wa.gov.au;

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

'hardstand' means a surface with a permeability of 10^{-9} metres/second or less;

'Licence' means this Licence numbered L6010/1989/13 and issued under the Act;

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

'NATA' means the National Association of Testing Authorities, Australia;

'NATA accredited' means in relation to the analysis of a sample that the laboratory is NATA accredited for the specified analysis at the time of the analysis;

'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; and

'Schedule 2' means Schedule 2 of this Licence unless otherwise stated;

'usual working day' means 0800 – 1700 hours, Monday to Friday excluding public holidays in Western Australia;

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.

1.1.5 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 Premises operation

1.2.1 The licensee shall ensure that all animal waste material received for rendering is processed within 24 hours.

1.2.2 The licensee shall ensure that in the event of a breakdown in the rendering plant which prevents rendering from continuing, waste material is directed to either a licensed landfill for burial or to a licensed rendering facility.

1.2.3 In the event of failure of the rendering plant for longer than 24 hours, the Licensee shall cease slaughtering onsite until the rendering plant is fully operational or the contingency plan identified in condition 1.2.2 is in place.



- 1.2.4 The Licensee shall direct all condensate from the cooker to the wastewater treatment system.
- 1.2.5 The Licensee shall ensure that all wastewater and solid wastes generated on site are only stored and/or treated within vessels or compounds provided with the infrastructure detailed in Table 1.2.5.

Table 1.2.5: Containment infrastructure		
Storage vessel or compound	Material	Infrastructure requirements
Anaerobic pond #1	Wastewater	Lined to achieve a permeability of at least $<10^{-9}$ m/s or equivalent
Anaerobic pond #2		
Aerobic pond #3		
Aerobic pond #4		
Aerobic pond #5		
Solid waste drying area	Paunch material	A bunded hardstanding area designed to achieve a permeability of at least $<10^{-9}$ m/s or equivalent where surface run-off of leachate and contaminated stormwater is returned to the start of the wastewater treatment process
Save-all sumps	Wastewater and solid wastes	Concrete lined

- 1.2.6 The Licensee shall manage the wastewater treatment ponds such that:
- (a) a minimum top of embankment freeboard of 500 mm is maintained;
 - (b) storm water runoff is prevented from causing the erosion of outer pond embankments;
 - (c) vegetation and floating debris (emergent or otherwise) is prevented from encroaching onto pond surfaces or inner pond embankments;
 - (d) trapped overflows shall be installed and maintained between treatment ponds to prevent carry-over of surface floating matter to subsequent ponds; and
 - (e) daily visual inspections of the wastewater treatment ponds are carried out to ensure they are managed in accordance with points (a) to (d) of this condition.
- 1.2.7 The Licensee shall ensure only treated wastewater from the final evaporation pond is disposed of via irrigation or used for wash down water.
- 1.2.8 The Licensee shall convey all abattoir liquid wastes, lairage and holding pen washdown water, truck wash down water, and rendering plant wastewater to the save-all sumps.
- 1.2.9 The Licensee shall ensure that where wastes produced on the Premises are not taken off-site for lawful use or disposal, they are subject to the on-site processes described in Table 1.2.9 and in accordance with the process requirements in that Table.



Table 1.2.9: Processing of materials		
Waste type	Process	Process requirements
Treated wastewater from final evaporation pond	Irrigation	When irrigation of wastewater occurs, ensure that: (a) bunding/cut-off drains are maintained adjacent to treated wastewater irrigation areas such that run-off discharges to a designated location; (b) no irrigation generated run-off, spray drift or discharge occurs beyond the Premises boundary; (c) wastewater is evenly distributed over the irrigation area; (d) no soil erosion occurs or ponding occurs; and (e) a healthy vegetation cover is maintained over the wastewater irrigation areas.
Solid wastes including manure and paunch material	Application of solid waste to land	Prior to applying solid wastes to land, ensure that: (a) paunch waste material is dried on a bunded hardstand prior to disposal; (b) solid wastes are disposed of evenly by means of a mechanical spreader; (c) disposal is managed such that there is no contaminated runoff beyond the Premises boundary; and (d) disposal does not occur within 50m of any defined watercourse, wetland or external property boundary.
Solid wastes from the grates on the save-all sumps	Disposal of solid wastes	Ensure that solid wastes collected from the grates on the save-all sumps are disposed in the following manner: (a) collected daily; and (b) disposed to the composting area for mixing into windrows; or (c) processed in the on-site rendering facility; or (d) exported off site to a licensed composting facility; or (e) exported off site to a licensed landfill facility.
Animal waste material from the abattoir excluding paunch	Rendering	Ensure that all animal waste material from the abattoir, excluding paunch is: (a) processed in the on-site rendering facility; or (b) complies with conditions 1.2.2 and 1.2.3 in the event that the rendering plant is not operational.
Blood from the abattoir operations	Rendering	Blood from the abattoir operations is to be separated and collected from the abattoir and: (a) processed in the on-site rendering facility; or (b) complies with conditions L1.2.2 and L1.2.3 in the event that the rendering plant is not operational.

2 Emissions

2.1 General

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

2.2 Emissions to land

2.2.1 The Licensee shall ensure that where waste is emitted to land from the emission points in Table 2.2.1 and identified on the map of monitoring and emission points in Schedule 1, it is done so in accordance with the conditions of this Licence.



Table 2.2.1: Emissions to land		
Emission point reference and location on map of monitoring and emission points in Schedule 1	Description	Source including abatement
L1	Discharge of treated wastewater to on-site irrigation area(s)	Treated wastewater from final effluent wastewater pond
T1	Discharge of solid wastes to designated disposal area(s)	Solid wastes including manure and dried paunch material

2.2.2 The Licensee shall not cause or allow emissions to land greater than the limits listed in Table 2.2.2.

Table 2.2.2: Emission limits to land			
Emission point reference	Parameter	Limit (including units)	Averaging period
L1	Nitrogen loading	120 kilograms/hectare/year	Annual
	Phosphorus loading	480 kilograms/hectare/year	
	Biochemical Oxygen Demand	30 kilograms/hectare/day	Daily

3 Monitoring

3.1 General monitoring

3.1.1 The licensee shall ensure that:

- (a) all water samples are collected and preserved in accordance with AS/NZS 5667.1;
- (b) all wastewater sampling is conducted in accordance with AS/NZS 5667.10; and
- (c) all laboratory samples are submitted to and tested by a laboratory with current NATA accreditation for the parameters being measured.

3.1.2 The Licensee shall ensure that quarterly monitoring is undertaken at least 45 days apart.

3.2 Monitoring of emissions to land

3.2.1 The Licensee shall undertake the monitoring in Table 3.2.1 according to the specifications in that table.

Table 3.2.1: Monitoring of emissions to land				
Emission point reference and location on map of monitoring and emission points in Schedule 1	Parameter	Units	Averaging period	Frequency
M1	Volumetric flow rate	m ³ /day	--	Daily during periods of irrigation
	pH	pH units	Spot sample	Monthly during periods of irrigation
	Total nitrogen, total phosphorus, biochemical oxygen demand and total dissolved solids	mg/L		



3.3 Monitoring of inputs and outputs

3.3.1 The Licensee shall undertake the monitoring in Table 3.3.1 according to the specifications in that table.

Table 3.3.1: Monitoring of inputs and outputs			
Input / Output	Units	Averaging period	Frequency
Inputs	Number of livestock received	Monthly total	Each batch arriving at Premises
Outputs	Solid waste including manure and paunch	kg	weekly
	Number of carcasses in tonnes	Monthly total	Monthly tally from abattoir

4 Information

4.1 Records

4.1.1 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 4.1.1(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.

4.1.2 The Licensee shall complete an Annual Audit Compliance Report indicating the extent to which the Licensee has complied with the conditions of the Licence, and any previous licence issued under Part V of the Act for the Premises for the previous annual period.

4.1.3 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.

4.2 Reporting

4.2.1 The Licensee shall submit to the CEO an Annual Environmental Report within 28 calendar days after the end of the annual period. The report shall contain the information listed in Table 4.2.1 in the format or form specified in that table.

Table 4.2.1: Annual Environmental Report		
Condition or table (if relevant)	Parameter	Format or form ¹
-	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
Table 3.2.1	Volumetric flow, total phosphorous, total nitrogen, biochemical oxygen demand and	None specified



	total dissolved solids	
Table 3.3.1	Monitoring of inputs and outputs	None specified
4.1.2	Compliance	Annual Audit Compliance Report (AACR). The AACR template can be found on DWER's website www.dwer.wa.gov.au
4.1.3	Complaints summary	None specified
4.2.1	The Annual Environmental Report to contain an assessment of the information contained within the report against previous monitoring results and Licence limits.	None specified

Note 1: Forms are in Schedule 2

4.2.2 The Licensee shall submit the information in Table 4.2.3 to the CEO according to the specifications in that table.

Table 4.2.3: Non-annual reporting requirements

Condition or table (if relevant)	Parameter	Reporting period	Reporting date (after end of the reporting period)	Format or form
-	Copies of original monitoring reports submitted to the Licensee by third parties	Not Applicable	Within 14 days of the CEO's request	As received by the Licensee from third parties

4.3 Notification

4.3.1 The Licensee shall ensure that the parameters listed in Table 4.3.1 are notified to the CEO in accordance with the notification requirements of the table.

Table 4.3.1: Notification requirements

Condition or table (if relevant)	Parameter	Notification requirement ¹	Format or form
1.2.2 1.2.3	Rendering Plant breakdown or failure prior to the implementation of the contingency plans	As soon as practicable but no later than 5pm of the next usual working day	None specified

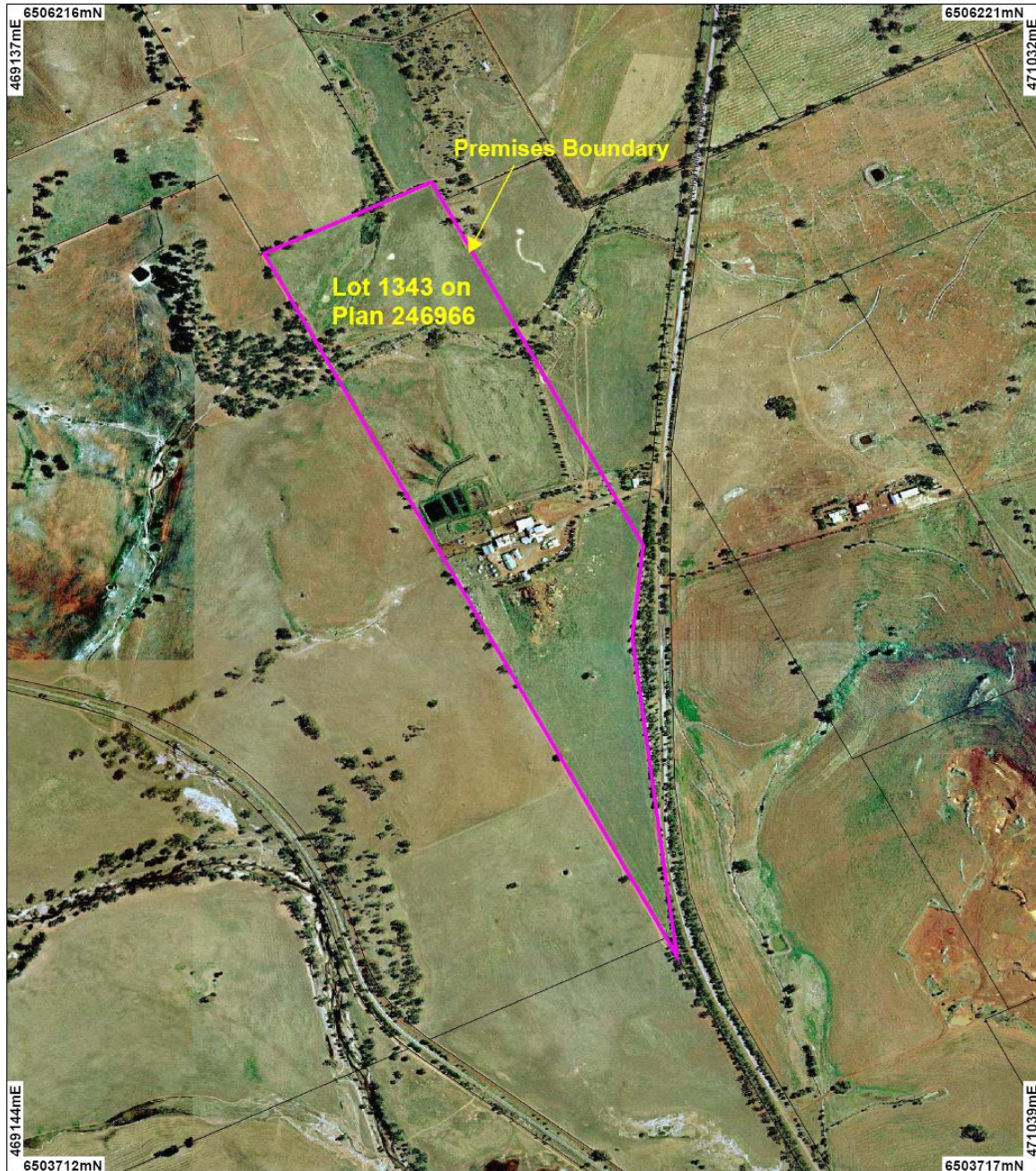
Note 1: Notification requirements in the Licence shall not negate the requirement to comply with s72 of the Act



Schedule 1: Maps

Premises map

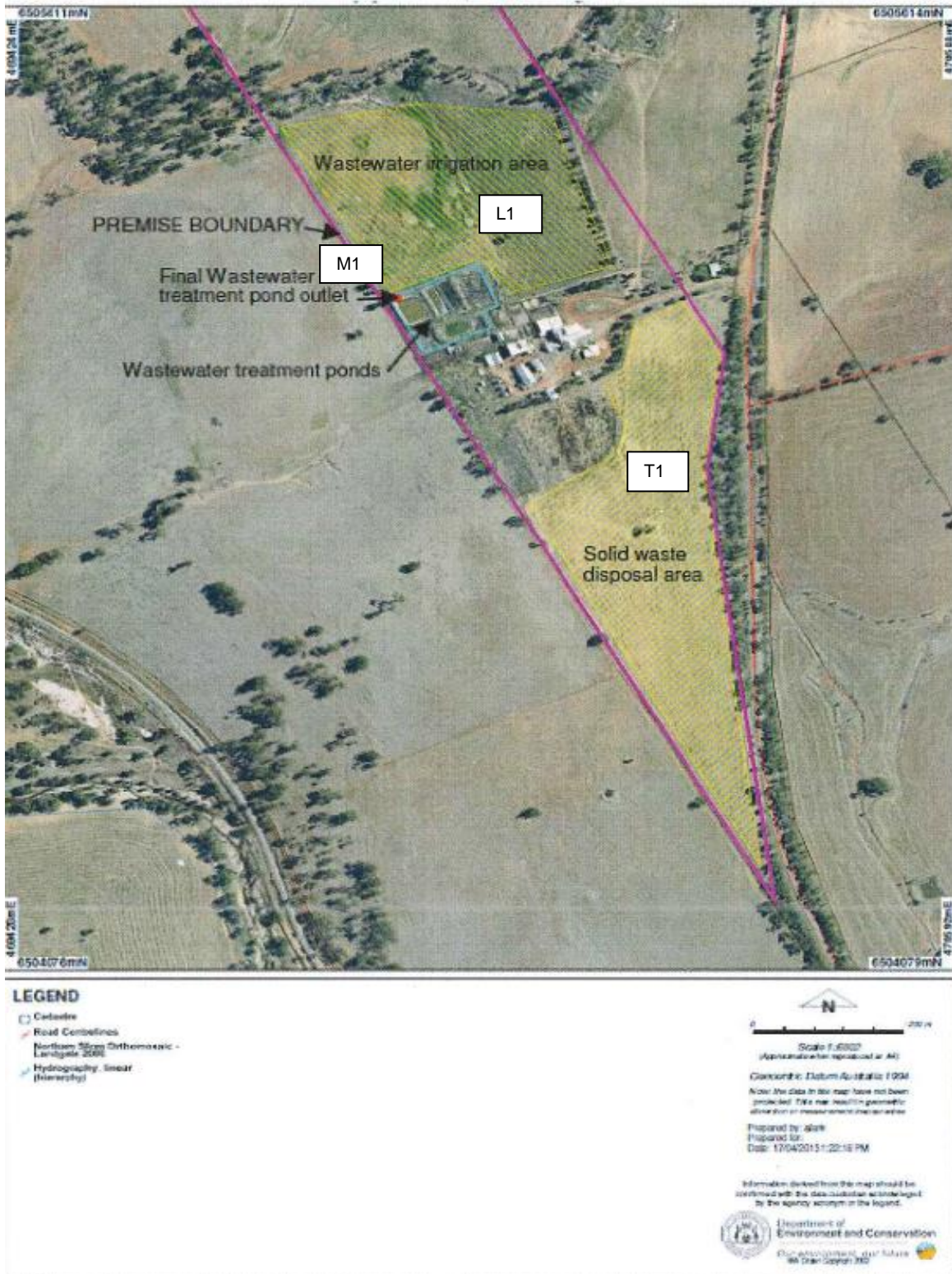
The Premises is shown in the map[s] below. The pink line depicts the Premises boundary.





Map of Monitoring and emission points

The locations of the monitoring locations and emission points, as defined in Tables 2.2.1, 2.2.2 and 3.2.1 are shown below.





Schedule 2:

Licence: L6010/1989/13

Licensee: Prime Meat Processors Pty Ltd

Form: N1

Date of breach:

Notification of detection of the breach of a limit.

These pages outline the information that the operator must provide. Units of measurement used in information supplied under Part A and B requirements shall be appropriate to the circumstances of the emission. Where appropriate, a comparison should be made of actual emissions and authorised emission limits.

Part A

Licence Number	L6010/1989/13
Name of operator	Prime Meat Processors Pty Ltd.
Location of Premises	Lot 1343 on Plan 246966, Northam-Pithara Road, Irishtown WA 6401
Time and date of the detection	

Notification requirements for the breach of a limit	
Emission point reference/ source	
Parameter(s)	
Limit	
Measured value	
Date and time of monitoring	
Measures taken, or intended to be taken, to stop the emission	

Part B

Any more accurate information on the matters for notification under Part A.	
Measures taken, or intended to be taken, to prevent a recurrence of the incident.	
Measures taken, or intended to be taken, to rectify, limit or prevent any pollution of the environment which has been or may be caused by the emission.	
The dates of any previous N1 notifications for the Premises in the preceding 24 months.	

Name	
Post	
Signature on behalf of Prime Meat Processors Pty Ltd	
Date	