



CEO-initiated amendment to licence

Division 3, Part V *Environmental Protection Act 1986*

Licence number	L6395/1993/16
Licence holder	Harvey Industries Group Pty Ltd
DWER file number	DER2015/000553
Premises	Harvey Beef Abattoir Seventh Street HARVEY WA 6220
Date of report	23 August 2024
Status of report	Final

Amendment description

This amendment is made pursuant to section 59 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act) to amend an existing licence issued for a prescribed premises as set out below.

This amendment is on the initiative of the Chief Executive Officer of the department.

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>.

Purpose and scope of assessment

Harvey Industries Group Pty Ltd (licence holder) hold licence L6395/1993/16 (existing licence), issued under Part V Division 3 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*.

The licence relates to operation of a red meat processing facility on the outskirts of Harvey, about 140 km south of Perth. The main activities on the premises include the slaughtering and processing of cattle, and the management of abattoir wastes generated from operations.

Following a recently reported incident of the potential unlawful dumping of abattoir wastes, the department has determined to review existing abattoir licenses to ensure the requirements for compliance are clear where a licence specifies the off-site removal and/or disposal of waste(s).

Decision

Off-site removal of wastes

The department has conducted a targeted review of the existing licence and notes that several waste types generated from this abattoir require, or are allowed to be, removed and/or disposed of off-site; however, it is not also specified that those wastes must be taken to a premises that is lawfully able to accept those types of waste.

The delegated officer has determined to make the following changes that specify the following:

- that in the event of plant failure or breakdown of any part of the rendering plant process, that renderable material may be directed to a premises that is lawfully able to accept that type of waste, such as a licensed landfill that is authorised by their licence to accept that type of waste;
- that dead animals may be removed off-site to a premises that is lawfully able to accept that type of waste, such as a licensed rendering facility or a licensed composting or organics recycling facility that is authorised to accept that type of waste;
- that solid waste (manure) from lairage yards must be removed off-site to a premises that is lawfully able to accept that type of waste, such as a licensed composting or organics recycling facility or a licensed solid waste facility that is authorised to accept that type of waste;
- that paunch material must be removed off-site to a premises that is lawfully able to accept that type of waste, such as a licensed composting or organics recycling facility or a licensed solid waste facility that is authorised to accept that type of waste; and
- that pond sludge must be removed off-site to a premises that is lawfully able to accept that type of waste, such as a licensed composting or organics recycling facility or a licensed solid waste facility that is authorised to accept that type of waste.

These changes ensure the requirements for compliance are clear and enforceable for conditions that require, or allow, the off-site removal and/or disposal of wastes from the abattoir. Definitions have also been added for licensed composting facility, licensed rendering facility, and licensed solid waste facility.

Other matters

In amending the existing licence, the delegated officer has also determined to:

- correct unintentional typographical errors with condition numbers; and
- delete conditions that “have the same meaning given to that term under the EP Act”, as they are considered unnecessary and redundant (due to clause (f) in the ‘interpretation’ section on Page 2 of the existing licence); and
- update the AACR definition, consistent with the current licence template.

Draft decision and licence holder comments

The draft amended licence and this report were provided to the licence holder on 30 July 2023. The licence holder accepted the proposed changes and advised it is currently complying with the amended licence by sending its paunch material to a licensed composting facility.

The licence holder advises it may take 6-12 months to organise alternative arrangements, and that once confirmed, the department will be informed of the final preferred long-term solution and schedule.

Summary of changes

The below table provides a summary of the updates and will act as a record of implemented changes. All changes have been incorporated on the licence.

Condition / table	Description
Condition 6, Table 2	Clause 1(d) updated to specify that a licensed landfill must be authorised to accept renderable material
Condition 11, Table 4	Clause 1(d)(ii) updated to specify that a licensed landfill must be authorised to accept renderable material
Condition 18, Table 9	Clause 1(b) added to specify that where dead animals are taken off-site, they must be taken to a licensed premises
	Clause 2 updated to specify that solid waste (manure) must be taken off-site to a licensed premises
	Clause 3(a) updated to specify that paunch material must be taken off-site to a licensed premises
	Clause 8(b) updated to specify that sludge waste must be taken off-site to a licensed premises
Condition 23	Corrected typographical (cross-referencing) error
Condition 25	Corrected typographical (cross-referencing) error
Condition 28	Corrected typographical (cross-referencing) error
Condition 30, Table 14	Corrected typographical (cross-referencing) errors
Definitions	Added definitions for ‘AACR’, ‘licensed composting facility’, ‘licensed rendering facility’, ‘licensed solid waste facility’
	Deleted definitions for ‘approved form’, ‘books’, ‘discharge’, ‘emission’, ‘environmental harm’, ‘implementation agreement or decision’, ‘pollution’, ‘waste’