

PLANNING AND NATURAL SYSTEMS

ATTACHMENT D

**POULTRY FARM - LOT 45 DP 790098, 1181
CEDAR PARTY ROAD, CEDAR PARTY**

ORDINARY MEETING

14 DECEMBER 2016



Ref: OUT16/33516

Petula Bowden
Team Leader Development Services
PO Box 482
TAREE NSW 482

8 September 2016

Dear Petula,

Proposal – Poultry Sheds x 3, 1181 Cedar Party Road, Cedar Party. Lot 45 DP790098, Manning Valley Eggs

Thank you for your letter dated 19 August 2016 giving the NSW Department of Primary Industries (DPI) Agriculture the opportunity to provide comment on the proposed development of poultry sheds on Lot 45 DP790098, 1181 Cedar Party Road, Cedar Party. The proposal is for three sheds, including packing room, and associated activities for free range egg production on a 42.13 ha property.

DPI Agriculture has reviewed Coastal Plan group's Statement of Environmental Effects (SEE) on behalf of the proponent Manning Valley Eggs.

In general, DPI supports the proposed development of the additional poultry layer sheds, as the proposal provides for new housing facilities. The proposed facility as described in the SEE is in line with industry practice for a large scale free range egg layer farm. However some aspects of the proposal require further detail to assess whether the development is in line with relevant guidelines and facility design, management and risk mitigation are adequate.

Details on areas yet to be addressed in the proposal can be found in Appendix 1.

It is noted that some of these issues may be covered in an Environmental Management Plan (EMP) that has been prepared for the existing facility. The existing EMP should be reviewed to accommodate the changes to the site design, infrastructure and management that will occur as part of this planned development.

Please do not hesitate to contact DPI should you have any questions.

Kind Regards,

Joanna Blunden
Development Officer – Poultry Eggs

Reference:

Environmental Guidelines for the Australian Egg Industry can be located at:
<https://www.aecl.org/assets/Uploads/Resources/Environmental-Guidelines-for-the-Australian-Egg-Industry.pdf>

Model Code of Practice for the Welfare of Animals Domestic Poultry – 4th Edition located at
<http://www.publish.csiro.au/Books/download.cfm?ID=3451>

NSW biosecurity guidelines for free range poultry farms located at
<http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/livestock/poultry/eggs/biosecurity-egg-producers>

Appendix 1: Review of issues for Poultry Sheds x 3, including packing room, and associated activities at 1181 Cedar Party Road, Cedar Party. Lot 45 DP790098, Manning Valley Eggs.

Issue & SEE Reference	Comment	Recommendation
<p>Facility design and management – animal welfare, particularly stocking density</p>	<p>The farm should comply with requirements of the Model Code of Practice for the Welfare of Animals Domestic Poultry – 4th Edition. This document is not referenced in the proposal and insufficient detail is provided to determine whether the facility design and management will meet these welfare requirements. Specifically stocking density in shed and on range, adequate water volume for birds on site, back up water and whether power supplies are in place.</p>	<p>Recommend a development requirement that the shed and range design and management comply with welfare standards in the Model Code of Practice Domestic Poultry (or superseding standards). http://www.publish.csiro.au/Books/download.cfm?ID=3451</p>
<p>Biosecurity</p>	<p>Concerns with regard to the information provided in the SEE are listed below.</p> <p>Water supply The proposal states that the water will be sourced from Dingo Creek. This does not provide enough detail to assess whether the water supply will meet the Biosecurity Guidelines for Poultry.</p> <p>Dead bird collection and disposal The proposal stated that dead birds will be collected daily and composted in bins with compost spread on farm. To demonstrate this will meet Biosecurity Guidelines further detail is required regarding the siting of the compost vessel, the size of the vessel with regard to anticipated mortalities or the management of the composting process. Disposal areas should located outside the biosecure poultry production area.</p>	<p>Recommend a development requirement that the operation will fully comply the <i>NSW Biosecurity Guidelines for Free Range Poultry Farms</i> (or superseding standards). See http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/livestock/poultry/eggs/biosecurity-egg-producers.</p> <p>Other references include the <i>National Water Biosecurity Manual – Poultry Production</i> and <i>National Farm Biosecurity Manual – Poultry Production</i> Department of Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry, Canberra.</p>

Issue & SEE Reference	Comment	Recommendation
1.1 Overview of Proposal	<p>It is stated that, “the sheds are proposed to be constructed over a separate title of land, but will be run as a single farm with the existing three (3) sheds.”</p> <p>To protect biosecurity environmental Guidelines for the Australian Egg Industry note that new farms should be established 1000 metres between a new farm and any existing alternative form of intensive poultry farming.</p>	Recommend a development requirement that the sites on Lots 44 & 45 are operated as one farm.
2.1 Site details	<p>It is stated in the Overview of the Proposal that the development is to be “run as one farm” with the existing. Figure 3 (pg 5) appears to show existing range area extends beyond the shown “100m buffer” line and range area shown on map in Appendix A Plan of the Proposal.</p>	It is suggested that Council confirms that the existing range area is in line with maps provided development approval.
3.1 Community amenity and health – odour	<p>The proposal notes an odour assessment demonstrates no offensive odour impacts on neighbouring sensitive receptors.</p> <p>This assessment does not provide for litter spreading on the property.</p>	Recommend a development requirement that no poultry litter removed from sheds is spread on the property (ie no manure in excess of that deposited by birds on the range).
3.1 Community amenity and health – visual impact	<p>The proposal notes there may be a need for some additional vegetative screening along roadways. Screening is important for visual amenity, farm privacy and dust/feather drift suppression.</p>	Farm screening needs should be addresses and a plan developed, including for establishment and maintenance of screening.
3.3 Free range area	<p>Insufficient detail is provided to determine if range area will meet Model Code of Practice requirements (maximum density 1500 birds/ ha or 10,000 if rotated) whilst maintaining 100, buffer from waterway, per Appendix 1 Proposal Plan.</p>	Recommend a range design plan is developed which demonstrates compliance Model Code of Practice and separation distances from waterways..
4.5 Environmental Guidelines for Egg Industry	<p>Proposal notes that the 3 news sheds could be operated under the existing Environmental Management Plan</p>	Recommend that the existing EMP be reviewed and updated to include 3 new sheds and associated impacts (new site, increased flock, increased vehicles etc)
3.2 Surface water. (a) litter storage areas	<p>The location, design and management of litter storage area is not fully documented.</p>	<p>Storage of litter on site is not recommended.</p> <p>Temporary litter management and storage areas should meet requirements as stated in Environmental Guidelines.</p>

Issue & SEE Reference	Comment	Recommendation
3.2 Surface water. (b) litter application	<p>It is proposed that litter/manure may be spread on site. Litter should typically be removed from site to reduce biosecurity risk. If used on farm:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Any manure utilisation area should be at least 150 m from production area to minimise biosecurity risk. - A buffer distance of 100m between utilisation area and water course <p>The DA notes that the range area is 100m from a watercourse; litter should not be spread in the buffer between the range area and the watercourse.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To further protect waterways, maintain an unfertilised vegetated buffer 10– 30 m wide around all boundaries and next to any watercourses. The width of the buffer will depend on slope, groundcover and sensitivity of the waterway to pollution 	Spreading manure on this site is not recommended.
Appendix A Plan for the Proposal	Appendix A Plan for Proposal shows a line indicating “100m buffer”. It is presumed that this refers to distance from a natural waterbody.	It is suggested that Council confirms the suitability of this line with reference to topographic maps and the term “natural waterbody” as defined in the Greater Taree Local Environment Plan 2010 (or other if applicable).