

AUTHORITIES MEETING: PROPOSED EXPANSION OF CALVINIA RAMSKOP ABATTOIR, ERF 3562, CALVINIA, NORTHERN CAPE (DENC REF: NC/BA/27/NAH/HAN/CAL1/2017)

Date

02 August 2018

Venue:

Hantam Municipal Office Boardroom, 20 Hope Street, Calvinia

Time :

14:00 - 16:30pm

Attendees:

Mr. Bernard de Witt (BdW) (EnviroAfrica CC)

Mr. Emile Esquire (EE) (EnviroAfrica CC)

Mr. Jan Swartz (JS) (Hantam Municipality: Municipal Manager)

Mr. B.A. Leukes (BL) (Hantam Municipality: Head: Town Planning & Building Control)

Mrs. Riana Lock (RL) (Hantam Municipality: Assistant Town Planner)

Mr. Riaan van Wyk (RvW) (Hantam Municipality)

Ms. Onwabile Ndzumo (ON) (DENC - Sub-Directorate: Impact Management)

Ms. Lucille Karsten (LK) (DENC - Directorate: Waste management)

Mr. Brandon Manuel (BM) (Dep. Agriculture - Directorate: Veterinary Services)

Mr. Danie Franken (DF) (Applicant – KLK Ramskop Abattoir)

Mr. Francois Nel (FN) (KLK Ramskop Abattoir)
Mr. Gert Meiring (GM) (BVI Consulting Engineers)

Responsible	Description / Comment											
Person												
BdW	1. Opening and Welcome Opened the meeting and informed all present that the solid waste management and wastewater effluent management at Ramskop Abattoir triggered the need for the meeting as well as the comment that was received by Hantam Municipality.											
	2. Wastewater Management at Ramskop Abattoir											
JS	Objects to the proposed development due to unpleasant smells, odours emanating from the Ramskop Abattoir. Jan said that he will not approve the expansion of the abattoir if the current wastewater and the Chemical Oxygen Demand ("COD") concentration of the wastewater entering the Calvinia Waste Water Treatment Works (CWWTW) is not reduced to an acceptable level. It was mentioned that the municipality received several complaints from residents in the town of Calvinia.											
GM	 There is an existing agreement between Ramskop Abattoir and the Hantam Municipality, which commenced in 2008. According to the agreement the following was required: Monthly reporting; Monthly waste water analysis; Penalties involved when the COD organic load exceeds agreed limits; Different COD levels – no consistency; Solids entering the CWWTW were some of the main concerns. Municipality will not be able to accept the current high COD levels if no improvements are made; Measurement of the sewage outflow / riool uitvloei; Pre-treatment on site – The blood must be separated, as this significantly increases the organic load of the wastewater entering the CWWTW. 											



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GM	Samples should be taken at the inlet and outlet pipe. The municipality is not going to accept the wastewater if the water quality is not improved. If water quality is improved than the municipality might consider allowing the additional wastewater should Ramskop Abattoir be expanded.									
BdW	The applicant was advised to do something about the quality of the wastewater entering the CWWTW so as to comply with the municipality's agreement.									
GM	It was mentioned that abattoir effluent is a major problem for the Northern Cape Province. The National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998) ("NWA"), protects the Municipality. The applicant must therefore discharge effluent that meets the standards of the municipality, as per the agreement.									
JS	If the wastewater is not at an acceptable level within 3 months from this meeting, then the municipality will stop taking the wastewater emanating from Ramskop Abattoir and would instruct the abattoir to cease all activities.									
FN	Francois indicated that water quality samples were provided to Gert and Riaan. However, Gert requested Francois to provide all samples to Gert and Riaan on a monthly basis; starting from (today) August 2018. Gert mentioned that if the COD limits remains below the agreed amount than they will allow Ramskop Abattoir to continue discharging the effluent wastewater into the CWWTW.									
DF	The wastewater volumes will increase from October to December months; and that Ramskop Abattoir currently produces approximately 60m³ (60000 L) of wastewater per day.									
GM	Gert support Riaan's notion that the conditions of the agreement between the municipality and Ramskop Abattoir be tightened, to ensure compliance.									
BdW	Requested all the water sample (test) letters from the approved laboratory, test results from the abattoir, and the written agreement / approval from the municipality. The applicant was advised to approach Geohydrological and Spatial Solutions International (Pty) Ltd ("GEOSS") for the installation of two monitoring boreholes to test the groundwater quality at the site.									
RvW	Instructed Francois to provide the water quality samples to him on a regular basis (every second week of the month).									
	Solid Waste Management at Ramskop Abattoir									
DF	The solid waste / condemned material gets buried in trenches at the abattoir and that other methods of dealing with the solid waste was considered but are too expensive. Ramskop Abattoir looked at the following options: Biogas, oxidation dams, and the cooking of blood. Ramskop Abattoir is still looking for the most suitable alternative. Danie mentioned the there are two rendering plants in Nelspruit (mince to meat and defrost it) and said that transport costs are too expensive.									
RvW	Riaan indicated that unpleasant odours from the abattoirs in town can be smelled from the middle of the town of Calvinia.									
ON	Smell is a very subjective matter. It differs from person to person.									
LC	DENC's Waste Management Directorate should indicate whether a Waste Management License (WML) is required. EnviroAfrica to draft a letter to DENC Waste Management Directorate asking whether the proposed development would trigger a WML.									
	3. Way Forward									
JS	The municipality will cease to take in the wastewater from Ramskop Abattoir if no improvements are being made.									



DF	The applicant asked the municipal manager to continue with the activities at Ramskop abattoir, while improvements are being made.
BdW	Two monitoring boreholes would be required for groundwater quality monitoring. Bernard advised the applicant to consult Geohydrological and Spatial Solutions International (Pty) Ltd ("GEOSS") to deal with the monitoring boreholes.
LK/BdW	Lucille advised the applicant that a Waste Management License ("WML") might be required. DENC waste to advised what waste listed activities might be triggered. A NEMA applicability checklist or letter to be compiled by EnviroAfrica and submitted to DENC's Sub-Directorate: Impact Management and Waste Management Directorate, as soon as possible.
BM	Calvinia Abattoir is located north-west of Ramskop Abattoir. Obtain a copy of the Environmental Authorisation ("EA") issued for Calvinia Abattoir (Mr. Hugo) located approximately 230m north-west of Ramskop Abattoir.
GM	If Ramskop Abattoir want to continue with the operations at Ramskop Abattoir than they must separate the blood and must keep the COD at 5000mg/l. Gert from BVI Consulting Engineers, on behalf of the municipality, said that Ramskop Abattoir can continue with the activities for the next three months so that the municipality can see if there are improvements, and mentioned that the COD levels or concentrations in the wastewater entering the CWWTW must be constant. Gert mentioned that he will provide a revised letter to Danie (Ramskop Abattoir), on behalf of the municipality.
DF	The blood from the slaughter house to be collected in a tank (container) (and not washed into the municipal system) and could be transported to another facility.
BdW	4. Closure of Meeting Bernard thanked all for their valuable input to the meeting and future contribution to the EIA process. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 16h00.



HAMTAM MUNISIPALITE

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