

Environmental Impact Statement
Project Specific Guidelines
For
TASSAL Operations Pty Ltd
Margate Processing Facility
Increase in Production
Tasmania

November 2020



ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AUTHORITY

Contents

1. Information for the Proponent 3
 Purpose..... 3
 Instructions..... 3
2. Key Issues 3
3. Survey and Study Requirements for Key Issues 3
4. Information Requirements for key issues 4
5. Other Information Required..... 5

1. Information for the Proponent

Purpose

The *Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994* (the EMPC Act) requires the Board of the Environment Protection Authority (the Board) to provide guidance to the proponent about what should be included in the case for assessment.

The Board assesses the environmental aspects of the proposal, while the relevant Planning Authority (Council) assesses planning aspects. The Board has authorised EPA Tasmania to undertake administrative tasks and establish the information base to inform decision making on its behalf.

These project specific guidelines have been prepared based on a Notice of Intent for the proposed increase in processing at the Margate fish processing facility owned and operated by Tassal Operations Pty Ltd.

Instructions

- This document must be read in conjunction with the *General Guidelines for the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement* (the General Guidelines).
- The General Guidelines provide detailed instructions on preparing the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) as well as other information to be provided to the Board for its assessment. These Guidelines are available on the EPA website at <http://epa.tas.gov.au/assessment/assessment-process/guidance-documents>.
- Please ensure you refer to the latest version of the General Guidelines by downloading them directly from the EPA website link above.
- This project specific guidelines document:
 - identifies the key issues which must be addressed in the EIS;
 - the minimum survey requirements and studies required as part of the EIS for key issues; and
 - other information to be supplied for the purpose of the Board’s assessment, in addition to that required by the General Guidelines, for both key issues and other issues.

The EIS should be prepared using a risk-based approach. Not all issues nominated in the guidelines will have the same degree of relevance to all proposed activities. Depending on the nature of the proposed activity and its location, some issues may be more relevant than others. **The level of detail provided on each issue should be appropriate to the level of significance of that environmental issue to the proposal.** Refer to the General Guidelines for further instructions on preparing the EIS.

The issue of guidelines should not be interpreted as excluding other matters that emerge as significant from environmental studies, public comments or otherwise during preparation of the EIS. The assessment process may also change the level of risk associated with some of the issues. The level of detail provided in the EIS may therefore change to reflect the level of significance of that environmental issue to the proposal.

NOTE: An assessment cannot proceed to public consultation until the Board has received an EIS that meets the requirements of the General and Project Specific Guidelines, and provides sufficient information to assess the proposed activity (subject to any additional information required in response to public consultation).

Further information on the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process is provided in the *Guide to EIA* available on the EPA website at <http://epa.tas.gov.au/assessment/assessment-process/guidance-documents>.

2. Key Issues

The key issues identified for this proposal, which should be the focus of the EIS, are:

Key Issues	
1	<i>Potential impact of air emissions on nearby residents</i>

Please refer to the General Guidelines and Sections 3 and 4 below for the information requirements associated with these key issues.

3. Survey and Study Requirements for Key Issues

The following surveys and studies will be required as part of the EIS.

Key Issue	Surveys Required	Studies Required	Relevant Section(s) of General Guidelines
1.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Results of atmospheric dispersion modelling. The results should be used to assess the impacts of air emissions from the proposed intensification relative to the requirements of the <i>Environment Protection Policy (Air Quality) 2004</i>. Identification of all sensitive receivers in the vicinity of the facility. Assessment of the impact of odour on nearby sensitive receptors. 		5.2 and 6.1

4. Information Requirements for key issues

The following information is required in addition to the requirements of the General Guidelines. Some of these requirements will support completion of the surveys and studies as detailed above.

The section numbers correspond to the relevant section of the General Guidelines.

6.1 Air quality

In addition to the matters stipulated in Section 6.1 of the EIS General Guidelines, the EIS must contain sufficient information to determine the effects of air emissions on nearby residences and other sensitive receptor locations. The EIS must include the following:

- A map showing the location of all point sources of atmospheric emissions (i.e. from arrival of stock to removal of the product from the site, waste management and facility maintenance) from the proposed development.
- An assessment of the potential for emissions to cause environmental harm including environmental nuisance and investigating a variety of conditions including plausible worst case scenarios and upset conditions. The assessment must contain contextual information, such as times of day, durations and frequencies, in order to establish suitable parameters for air dispersion modelling. It must also take into account all stages of the production process including:
 - Arrival of raw material, storage of products and by-products, removal of waste from the site; and
 - The wastewater treatment system including clarifiers, Dissolved Air Flootation (DAF) system and lagoons (operation and maintenance) as well as air emissions from the fish smoking process.
- Results of atmospheric dispersion modelling. The results should be used to assess the impacts of air emissions from the proposed intensification relative to the requirements of the *Environment Protection Policy (Air Quality) 2004*. Air Dispersion Modelling should be conducted by a suitably qualified specialist in accordance with the EPA's Atmospheric Dispersion Modelling Guidelines available from <https://epa.tas.gov.au/Documents/Atmospheric%20Dispersion%20Modelling%20Guidelines.pdf>.
- It is strongly recommended to discuss the scope and method of atmospheric dispersion modelling with the EPA's Air Modelling Officer prior to commencement.
- Detailed discussion of measures to mitigate any potential impacts that may cause environmental nuisance or environmental harm. The discussion should include management of potential impacts associated with handling of odorous material as well as potential impacts associated with malfunction of equipment and infrastructure used on the site, including the wastewater treatment system.
- Provide information about odour complaints from the site.

5. Other Information Required

The following information is required in addition to the requirements of the General Guidelines for issues, other than key issues.

The section numbers correspond to the relevant section of the General Guidelines.

2.1 General Description

In addition to the matters stipulated in the generic guidelines for preparing an Environmental Impact Statement, the EIS must contain the following:

- A description of existing site infrastructure and any proposed changes to enable production increase, including changes to loading and unloading areas, storage areas, stormwater infrastructure, building footprints, wastewater treatment facilities, etc.
- A description of existing operational procedures and key equipment and any proposed changes to enable production increase, including changes to raw material delivery, production process, biosecurity management, operating hours, packaging and storage, solid waste production and management, wastewater management and transport of products.
 - It should be clear from the description how the existing facility will be operated to accommodate the increase in production, should significant changes to infrastructure not be required.
- Details of any changes in use of existing wastewater treatment components e.g. changes to the use of lagoons, including changes to piping and plant.
- Description of the hot smoking facility and any changes to the existing site to allow for the resumption of hot smoking of salmon.
- A list of all products, including existing production rates and proposed production rates for each product. Include a discussion of any seasonal variation in production rates of products.
- Timing and description of process for decommissioning of the wastewater outfall to North West Bay.

6.2 Liquid waste and surface water

In addition to the matters stipulated in Sections 6.2 of the EIS General Guidelines, the EIS must contain the following:

- Identification of each wastewater source, volumes, and loads, and variability in characteristics through the production cycle and seasonally.
- Description of the wastewater treatment system and details on treatment performance and volume in relation to trade waste requirements.
- Description of contingency plans for unplanned events such as power failures, malfunctions, and other incidents that may result in the poor treatment of effluent, and or non-compliance with any trade waste requirements.
 - Note, if the wastewater outfall to North West Bay is to be retained for emergency or ongoing intermittent discharges to the marine environment, then limits may need to be set based upon an assessment of the impact of potential discharges against determined water quality guideline values for the receiving environment, consistent with the principles of the *State Policy on Water Quality Management 1997*. Additional benthic survey works, plume dispersion modelling and determination of site specific water quality criteria may be required.
- Description of existing and proposed site stormwater management, detailing those areas assessed as presenting a biosecurity risk, and reporting to the WWTP, and those areas which present no biosecurity risk with discharge to North West Bay.

6.4 Noise emissions

In addition to the matters stipulated in Section 6.4 of the EIS General Guidelines, the EIS must contain the following:

- Description of all existing major noise sources on site (fixed and mobile), including power ratings, hours of operation, associated noise attenuation and any noise mitigation measures.

- Description of proposed changes to the activity that may lead to changes in noise emissions, such as installation of new / upgraded equipment, changes in location of major noise generating equipment, increased activity at the site (e.g. increased traffic movements), or changes in the hours of operation of noise generating equipment and or activities.
- A map of the site showing the location of all existing and proposed major sources of noise.
- A map showing the location of nearby sensitive receptors.
- Assessment demonstrating that noise levels will not exceed 47 dB(A) during the day (8am to 6pm), 44 dB(A) during the evening (6pm to 10pm), 40 dB(A) during the night (10pm to 8am) at noise sensitive receptors.
- Detail on past noise complaints, issues or exceedances identified by Tassal, and discussion of management actions taken.

6.5 Waste management

In addition to the matters stipulated in Section 6.5 of the EIS General Guidelines, the EIS must contain the following:

- A description of storage, handling and disposal procedures to mitigate any potential biosecurity impacts and to control pests.
- A review of the relevance of the existing biosecurity management plan with reference to proposed increases in raw materials, solid and liquid waste volumes and handling. The plan will require approval by the Tasmanian Chief Veterinary Officer.



ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AUTHORITY