

## Environmental Impacts Screening Decision

### Neil Marks Poultry Rearing facility without processing

#### Project location and components



**Goggle Image – Showing the operation site and surrounding areas.**

#### **Description of proposed development**

The intended project will be established on a plot of land zoned for residential/agricultural purposes, located at lot 16 New Aanlegt Canal N0.2 Polder, West Bank Demerara (fig 1). The total land area to be occupied by the project is approximately 892 M<sup>2</sup>(9600 ft<sup>2</sup>) and entails the following:

#### **Construction phase:**

- The construction of three (3) single-storied poultry rearing houses, each with a dimension 15.7 m x 11.8m (1280 ft<sup>2</sup>).
- The frames of the pens would be constructed of wood and concrete, and enclosed to the sides with chicken mesh. The base of the pens will be constructed of concrete.

- An access pathway constructed of earthen materials will be created to adjoin the southern access route to project site. The construction phase of project is expected to be completed within 30 days of commencement.

### **Operation phase:**

- Immediately following the construction phase, the developer intends to commence the operation phase of project. This stage entails the rearing of broiler birds on a 6–8-week batch system. A total of 3000-3500 birds will be reared per batch.
- All birds harvested will be sold live to potential buyers. No processing of birds will be conducted onsite.
- After the completion of each batch of birds, pens will be cleaned and disinfected and rested for approximately 14 days before restocking with fresh bedding materials in preparation for new batch of birds.
- Care will be taken to minimize the volumes of water used for cleaning & disinfection of pens floors, following the removal of litter from pens. All effluent generated during this process will be directed to a sediment pond for the settling out of solids before final discharge into drainage system.
- All litter removed from pens will be recycled by placing into compost heaps located 150 feet north of the closest pens. Compost heaps will be appropriately managed to minimize the emission of unpleasant odours and the attraction of stray animals and flies.
- All compost produced will be used as organic fertilizers for the production of crops on adjoining plot of land owned by developer.

### **Environmental impact screening**

The EPA's screening of the proposed project concludes that the potential impacts identified are not significant or is the project deemed environmentally sensitive. Impacts arising from the construction and operational phases of the project are minor, localized and mitigable.

- Impacts from noise will be low to moderate and primarily during the construction phase; and considered short-term and localized. The area can be determined as Mixed zoned area.
- Impacts from dust pollution during the construction phase of the project whereby there is potential for the project actions to release dust due to excavation works,

clearing of vegetation and the construction of pens. However, the potential impacts are short-term, low-magnitude and can easily be mitigated.

- There are no areas (including aquatic) on or around the location that are used by protected, important (threatened, endangered, endemic) or sensitive species of flora or fauna (e.g., for breeding, migration, nesting, foraging, resting) that could be negatively impacted by the project.
- During the operational phases of the project there is the potential of negative impacts to air quality from the release of unpleasant odours from the improper management of bedding materials during the growing cycle of birds. Additionally, potential exists for odour nuisance from the indiscriminate disposal of poultry litter and poultry carcasses onsite. However, the potential impacts are site specific and can easily be mitigated. Hence, the overall potential negative impacts are not significant; also
- During the operation phase of the project there is potential for discharge of untreated effluent from the cleaning of poultry pens into existing waterways. However, the potential impacts seasonal and can easily be mitigate

### **Conclusion and recommendations**

From the analysis of the parameters assessed, there is a potential for negative impacts to Air quality, from the release of unpleasant odours that may be caused by the improper management of bedding materials during the growing cycle of birds. Other parameters assessed indicated that potential impacts during construction and operation are not significant, since those potential impacts identified were short term, reversible and easily mitigable. An Environmental Impact Assessment is therefore not required for this project.