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**GENERAL NOTICE**

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**NOTICE NO. OF 2017**

**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS**

**NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT: WASTE ACT, 2008**

**(ACT NO. 59 OF 2008)**

**DRAFT NATIONAL NORMS AND STANDARDS FOR MANAGEMENT OF CONDEMNED ANIMAL  
CARCASSES AND ABATTOIR WASTE**

I, Bomo Edith Edna Molewa, Minister of Environmental Affairs, hereby give notice of my intention to set national norms and standards for abattoir and animal waste management, under section 7(1) (c) and 7(2) (a) read with section 73 of the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008), set out in the Schedule hereto.

Members of the public are invited to submit to the Minister, within 60 (sixty) days of the publication of this notice in the *Gazette*, written comments or objections to the following addresses:

By post to: The Director-General: Department of Environmental Affairs  
Attention: Mr Mpho Morudu  
Private Bag X447  
**PRETORIA**  
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By hand at: Environment House, 473 Steve Biko Street, Arcadia, 0183

By e-mail: [MMorudu@environment.gov.za](mailto:MMorudu@environment.gov.za), or by fax to: 086 275 8849

The draft Norms and Standards can also be accessed at <http://sawic.environment.gov.za/> under "Documents for comment" or obtained in the Department's offices.

Any enquiries in connection with the notice can be directed to Mr Mpho Morudu at (012) 399 9773

**Comments received after the closing date may not be considered.**

**BOMO EDITH EDNA MOLEWA  
MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS**

## CHAPTER 1

### INTERPRETATION, PURPOSE AND APPLICATION

#### 1. Definitions

(1) In this Schedule, unless the context indicates otherwise, any word or expression that is defined in the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008) (as amended) has the same meaning, and—

**“Abattoir waste”** any material or object generated from the slaughter house ~~and feedlots or farms~~ that is unwanted, rejected, abandoned, discarded or disposed of, or that is intended or required to be discarded or disposed of, by the holder of that material or object, whether or not such, material or object can be re-used, recycled or recovered including condemned materials.

**Auditors**<sup>[L1]</sup>

**“Biosecurity”** a set of management practices which, when followed, collectively reduce the potential for the introduction and spread of disease-causing organisms onto and between animals

**“Condemned material”** an animal or parts of an animal inspected and judged, or otherwise determined, to be unacceptable for human and animal consumption and requiring sterilising or destruction.

**“Disposal”** burial, deposit, discharge, abandoning, dumping, placing or release of any waste into, or onto, any land.

**“Infectious material”** an animal that is infected or is suspected of being infected with an animal disease.

**Mortalities**<sup>[L2]</sup>

**“Provincial Executive Officer”** a designated officer of the province in question who is a Veterinarian.<sup>[L3]</sup>

**“Waste processing facility”** any site or premise used for the accumulation of waste with the purpose of treating of that waste at that site or on that premise.

**“Waste ~~processing storage~~ facility”** any facility where waste is taken for temporary storage, transfer, sorting into recyclable waste fractions for recycling, ~~re-use, treatment~~ or final disposal at a disposal facility.

#### 2. Purpose

The purpose of these norms and standards is to:—

- (a) Ensure the management of waste from slaughter of animals for human consumption are undertaken in a manner that considers the environmental impacts associated with the activity.
- (b) Reduce the environmental impact of abattoir waste through environmentally sound management.
- (c) Reduce the biosecurity risk posed by the management of abattoir waste to animal and human health.

- (d) Pre-classify abattoir waste and animal carcasses

### 3. Application of the norms and standards

- (1) The provisions of these standards are applicable to –
  - (a) All abattoirs and slaughter facilities contemplated in the Meat Safety Act (Act No. 40 of 2000)
  - (b) The management of mortalities and ~~in carcasses from~~ feedlots and “rearing” facilities
  - (c) The disposal of abattoir waste to land where no other service is available
  - (d) This Norm & Standard does not apply to composting facilities

## CHAPTER 2

### REQUIREMENTS FOR FACILITIES THAT GENERATE CONDEMNED ANIMAL CARCASSES AND ABATTOIR WASTE

#### 4. The responsibility of the generators of condemned animal carcasses and abattoir waste

- (1) All animal waste generators:
  - (a) must classify their condemned animal carcass and abattoir waste
  - (b) must ensure that waste management hierarchy is implemented and waste disposal is considered as a last resort;
  - (c) ensure infectious carcasses and abattoir waste is managed in a manner to prevent the transmission of infectious diseases
  - (d) have a responsibility to dispose their waste safely in an environmentally sound manner;
  - (e) are responsible for their waste from the point of generation until its final disposal
  - (f) are financially responsible for the safe disposal of their waste material;

#### 5. Classification of abattoir waste and animal carcasses

~~(a)~~ (a) Infectious abattoir waste and ~~farm mortalities animal carcasses~~ must be classified as hazardous waste

~~(a)(b)~~ (a)(b) Infectious waste must be separated at the abattoir.

~~(b)(c)~~ (b)(c) Infectious waste must not be considered for bio-digesting and composting unless it has been pre-treated to render it safe.

~~(e)(d)~~ (e)(d) Annexure 1 applies when classifying abattoir waste and condemned animal carcasses

#### 6. Condemned animal carcasses and abattoir waste storage

- (a) Waste must be removed from the site immediately where practical, or be stored ~~on a prepared area~~ for no longer than 48 hours (2 days).
- (b) Storage exceeding 48 hours (2 days) must be in cold room at 4 °C or less
- (c) Condemned animal carcasses and waste must be stored in a manner to ensure that they do not deteriorate before removal from the site, such as in a refrigerator or freezer.
- (d) Waste must be stored under an adequately sheltered area or adequate roofing must be provided to prevent storm-water run-off pollution.
- (e) Waste storage on site must be on an impervious base or water resistant container.

## 7. Transportation of condemned animal carcasses <sup>[L4]</sup> and abattoir waste

(1) Handling and transportation must be done in accordance with the Standard Operating Procedure approved by the provincial DAFF. <sup>[L5][L6]</sup>

(2) Transportation of condemned animal carcasses and abattoir waste, must be done in a responsible manner.

(a) Collection vehicles must ensure containment of liquids and prevention of odour that may cause an environmental nuisance or offensive condition.

(b) Collection vehicles must meet the biosecurity <sup>[L7]</sup> requirements of the department of agriculture <sup>[L8]</sup>.

## CHAPTER 3

### REQUIREMENTS FOR THE RENDERING, HYDROLYSIS AND DISPOSAL OF ANIMAL CARCASSES AND ABATTOIR WASTE

Waste from the abattoirs can be managed in different ways, however any selection of the management option must adhere to the following best management practice.

#### 8. Rendering & Sterilisation of animal carcasses and abattoir waste

(a) A Standard Operating Protocol must be provided to the Provincial Executive Officer for approval <sup>[L9]</sup>

(b) The rendering or Sterilisation plant must comply with conditions of the Standard Operating Procedure <sup>[L10]</sup>

#### 9. Hydrolysis <sup>[L11]</sup>

To be discussed with WMOs and DAFF

## 10. Burial of abattoir waste and animal carcasses to land

(a) Burial of animal carcass must be considered as a last resort if other methods are not available in the area. A once off burial of animal carcass in farms might seem not to be a problem, but be in compliance with other legislation.

- (i) No infectious animal carcasses must be disposed into mountains to feed to vultures due to a risk of spreading animal diseases.
- (ii) In a case of an outbreak of any exotic disease where no capacity exists to destroy the animals, the Provincial Veterinary Authorities in collaboration with the Provincial Waste Management Officer and Local Municipality must identify a mass burial site suitable for burial;
- (iii) Appropriate measure must be taken to neutralize and prevent the spread of the infection

(b) Burial land must meet the following criteria:

- (i) Burial to land is only suitable on large vacant agricultural land with good separation distances from sensitive land uses and vulnerable communities.
- (ii) No burial may take place within 100 meters of a watercourse, wetland; extraction borehole or residence
- (iii) Burial may not take place on a sand and gravel deposit, on a floodplain, or on any area with a slope greater than 8%;
- (iv) The excavation trench or pit must be a minimum of 3 meters above the water table.
- (v) The surface areas of a pit must be no larger than 3 by 3 meters
- (vi) [L12]All burial pits must be at least 3 meters apart
- (vii) A final cover for all trenches and pits must be 60 cm~~0.5 meters~~ of compacted soil.
- (viii) All burials must be limed at a Xkg lime/Ykg [L13]waste
- (ix) All burial pits must be covered on a daily basis
- (x) No burial may take place on the same spot for a period of a year;

## 11. Registration of rendering, sterilization, and burial sites for abattoir waste and animal carcasses

- (a) New rendering, hydrolysis processing facilities must be registered with the Department of Environmental Affairs within 90 (ninety) days after receipt of certification from DAFF.

- (b) Existing waste facilities including facilities licensed by DAFF must register with the Department of Environmental Affairs within 90 (ninety) days of publication of these Norms and Standards. |
- (c) [L14]Facilities in possession of Waste Management Licenses

## 12. Incineration of abattoir waste and animal carcasses

- (a) Incineration of abattoir waste and animal carcasses must take place at licensed facility

## 13. Landfill

## 13.14. Composting

# CHAPTER 4

## MONITORING OF THE WASTE PROCESSING FACILITY AND RECORD KEEPING

### 14.15. Auditing of the facility

- (1) Internal audits must be conducted quarterly by the facility owner and on each occasion a report must be compiled for record purposes
- (2) External audits must be conducted every two years by a suitably qualified independent auditor and the auditor must compile an audit report documenting the findings.
- (3) The external audit report must –
  - (a) Detail the extent of compliance with the conditions of these standards for the reporting period;
  - (b) Specify non-compliances identified and rectified prior to the audit;
  - (c) Contain recommendations regarding non-compliance or potential non-compliance; and
  - (d) Specify target dates for the implementation of the recommendations and whether corrective action taken for the previous audit non-compliances was adequate.

### 15.16. Relevant Authority Monitoring Inspections

- (1) The relevant authority responsible for waste processing and management reserves the right to inspect the facility without prior notification at any time.

### 16.17. Record keeping

- (1) Any records or documentation pertaining to the management of the facility must be made available to the competent authority upon request, as well as any other information that may be required.

- (2) Records must be kept for a minimum of five years and must also be available for inspection by the competent authority.
- (3) The complaints register and incident reports must be made available to the external auditor and the competent authority.

## CHAPTER 4

### MISCELLANEOUS

#### 17.18. Transitional arrangement

- (1) A person who has been lawfully operating animal carcasses and abattoir waste processing facility prior to and on the date of coming into effect of these standards continue with activity for the duration as stipulated in the permit or license and after the expiry of the permit or license comply with these Standards.

#### **ANNEXURE 1: GUIDELINE FOR PRE-CLASSIFICATION OF ABATTOIR WASTE AND ANIMAL CARCASSES**

<b>Reason for condemnation</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Classification</b>
Abnormal Pigmentation	Aesthetic	Non-infectious
Abscessation	Bacterial	Infectious
Actinomycosis	Bacterial	Infectious
Anaemia	Aesthetic	Non-infectious
Arthritis	Aesthetic	Non-infectious
Bloodsplashing	Aesthetic	Non-infectious
Brucellosis	Bacterial	Infectious
Bruising/Injuries	Aesthetic	Non-infectious
Cachexia (emaciation)	Aesthetic	Non -infectious
Contamination	It will depend on the physical, biological and chemical substance/agent	
Cysticercosis	Parasitic	Non-infectious
Degeneration		Non-infectious
Echinococcosis	Parasitic	Non-infectious
Edema	Will depend on the extent and cause of the condition	Will depend on the extent and cause of the condition
Emphysema	Aesthetic	Non-infectious

Enteritis/Gastritis	Bacterial	Infectious
Erysipelas	Bacterial	Infectious
Fascioliasis	Parasitic	Non-infectious
Fever	Septic fever- Virus and bacteria Aseptic fever	Infectious Non-infectious
Gangrene	Bacterial	Non-infectious
Hydacid cysts	Parasitic	Non-infectious
Immaturity	Aesthetic	Non-infectious
Insufficient bleeding	Aesthetic	Non-infectious
Jaundice/Icterus	Aesthetic	Non-infectious
Leptospirosis	Bacterial	Infectious
Lumpy Skin Disease	Viral	Depend on generalized acute infection accompanied with fever
Lymphadenitis (Caseous)	Bacterial, viral and fungi	Infectious
Metabolic Diseases	Chemical reaction	Non-infectious
Milk spot (Ascaris suum)	Parasitic	Non-infectious
Moribund	Chemical reaction	Non-infectious
Necrosis	Aesthetic	Non-infectious
Neoplasm/Cancer	Aesthetic	Non-infectious
Nephritis/Nephrosis	Infection	Non-infectious
Nodular worms	Parasitic	Non-infectious
Oedema	Aesthetic	Non-infectious
Parafilariasis	Parasitic	Non-infectious
Pericarditis	Bacterial	Infectious
Peritonitis/Pleuritis	Bacterial	Infectious
Pigmentation	Aesthetic	Non-infectious
Pneumonia	Bacterial Viral	Infectious Non-infectious
Prolapse	Aesthetic	Non-infectious
Rectal Prolapse	Aesthetic	Non-infectious
Sarcosporidia	Parasitic	Non-infectious
Scrotal sepsis	Bacterial	Infectious
Septicaemia/toxaemia	Bacterial	Infectious
Skin lesions	Viral	Depend on generalized acute infection
Stilesia Hepatica	Parasitic	Non-infectious



Swine Fever	Viral	Infectious
Tail bite necrosis	Aesthetic	Non-infectious
Telangiectasis	Aesthetic	Non-infectious
Toe necrosis	Aesthetic	Non-infectious
Tuberculosis	Bacterial	Infectious
Warm water scalding	Aesthetic	Non-infectious
Wet carcass syndrome	Aesthetic	Non-infectious

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