

'WASTE NOT, WANT NOT'

The Meat Industry & Environmental Management



10 May 2012
Spier Estate
Stellenbosch

RMAA
Conference



INTRODUCTION

Louise-Mari van Zyl

Masters Degree in Geography & Environmental Science (US)

Practicing as an EAP since 2002

Cape Environmental Assessment Practitioners (George)

Facilitate environmental impact assessments (EIA) and waste management licenses (WML) – amongst others for abattoirs and feedlots

National legislation



IN THIS PRESENTATION

ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES

LEGAL BACKGROUND & RECENT CHANGES

IMPORTANT DEFINITIONS

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROCESS / WASTE
MANAGEMENT LICENSE**

IMPLICATIONS FOR THE ABATTOIR INDUSTRY



ABATTOIR WASTE MANAGEMENT CHALLENGE



Traditional abattoir waste management practices:

- Disposal / burial condemned material / animal remains at municipal dumping sites / private land (farms)
- Waste Fluid (blood, effluent) disposed off in municipal sewer / storm water systems / fertiliser

DISPOSAL OF WASTE



ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

Health Risks (*odours, food source*) - *liability*

Environmental pollution (*surface and ground water*) - *responsibility*

Spreading of disease (*transfer*)

Consumer of Municipal Service
(*compliance issues*)



LEGISLATION

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT (NEMA), Act 107 of 1998

To regulate the procedure and criteria relating to the submission, processing and consideration of, and decision on, applications for environmental authorisations for the commencement of activities in order to avoid detrimental impacts on the environment, or where it can not be avoided, ensure mitigation and management of impacts to acceptable levels, and to optimise positive environmental impacts.

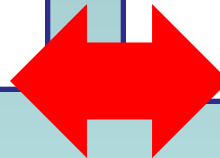
ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT: WASTE ACT (NEMWA), Act 59 OF 2008

The main purpose to -

- protect health and the environment by providing reasonable measures for the prevention of pollution;
- provide for national norms and standards for regulating the management of waste;
- provide for specific waste management measures;
- provide for the remediation of contaminated land; and
- provide for the licensing and control of 'waste management activities'; and

WASTE MANAGEMENT LICENSE



DEFINITIONS

“**Waste Management Activity**” means any activity listed in Schedule 1 or 40 published by notice in the *Gazette* under section 19, and includes—

- the **importation and exportation** of waste;
- the **generation** of waste, including the undertaking of any activity or process that is likely to result in the generation of waste;
- the accumulation and **storage** of waste;
- the collection and **handling** of waste;
- the **reduction, re-use, recycling and recovery** of waste;
- the **trading** in waste;
- the **transportation** of waste;
- the **transfer** of waste;
- the **treatment** of waste; and
- the **disposal** of waste.

“GENERAL & HAZARDOUS WASTE”



DEFINITIONS

"general waste" means waste that does not pose an immediate hazard or threat to health or to the environment, and includes—

(a) domestic waste; (b) building and demolition waste; (c) business waste; and (d) inert waste.

"hazardous waste" means any waste that contains organic or inorganic elements or compounds that may, owing to the inherent physical, chemical or toxicological characteristics of that waste, have a detrimental impact on health and the environment.

"by-product" means a substance that is produced as part of a process that is primarily intended to produce another substance or product and that has the characteristics of an equivalent virgin product or material.



LISTED ACTIVITIES

CATEGORY A (GENERAL WASTE)

20 activities

The disposal of general waste to land covering an area of more than 50m², but less than 200m² and with a total capacity not exceeding 25 000 tons.

The biological, physical or physico-chemical treatment of general waste at a facility that has the capacity to process in excess of 10 tons of general waste per day.

The processing of waste at biogas installations with a capacity to process in excess of five tons per day of bio-degradable waste.

Basic Assessment Process (6 – 8 months)

CATEGORY B (HAZARDOUS WASTE)

11 activities

The treatment of hazardous waste using any form of treatment regardless of the size or capacity of the facility.

The incineration of waste regardless of the capacity of the facility.

The disposal of any quantity of hazardous waste to land, or general waste to land covering an area in excess of 200m².

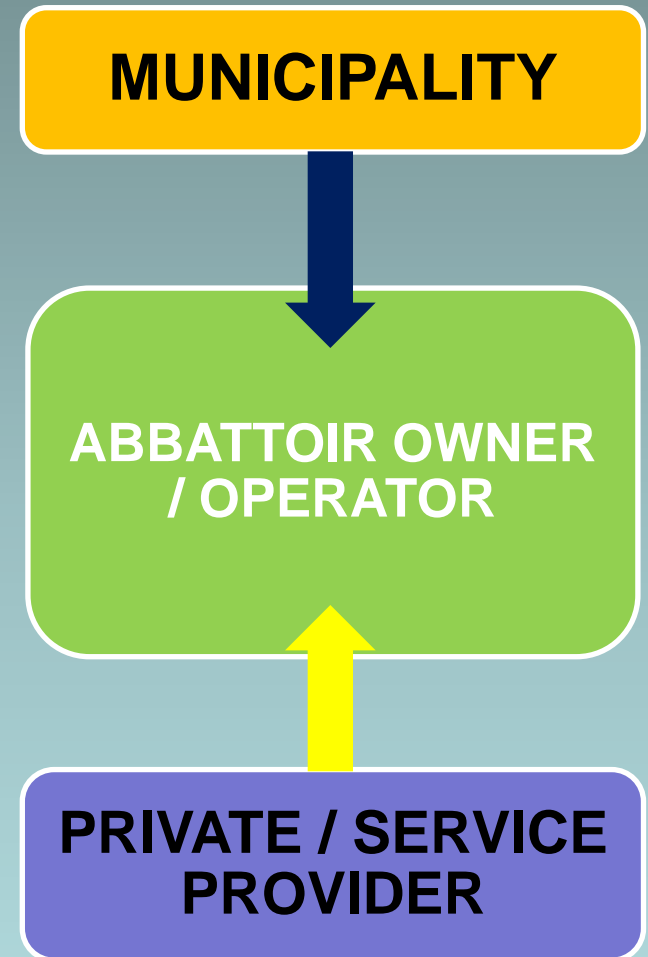
Full Scoping & Impact Assessment Process (10 – 12 months)



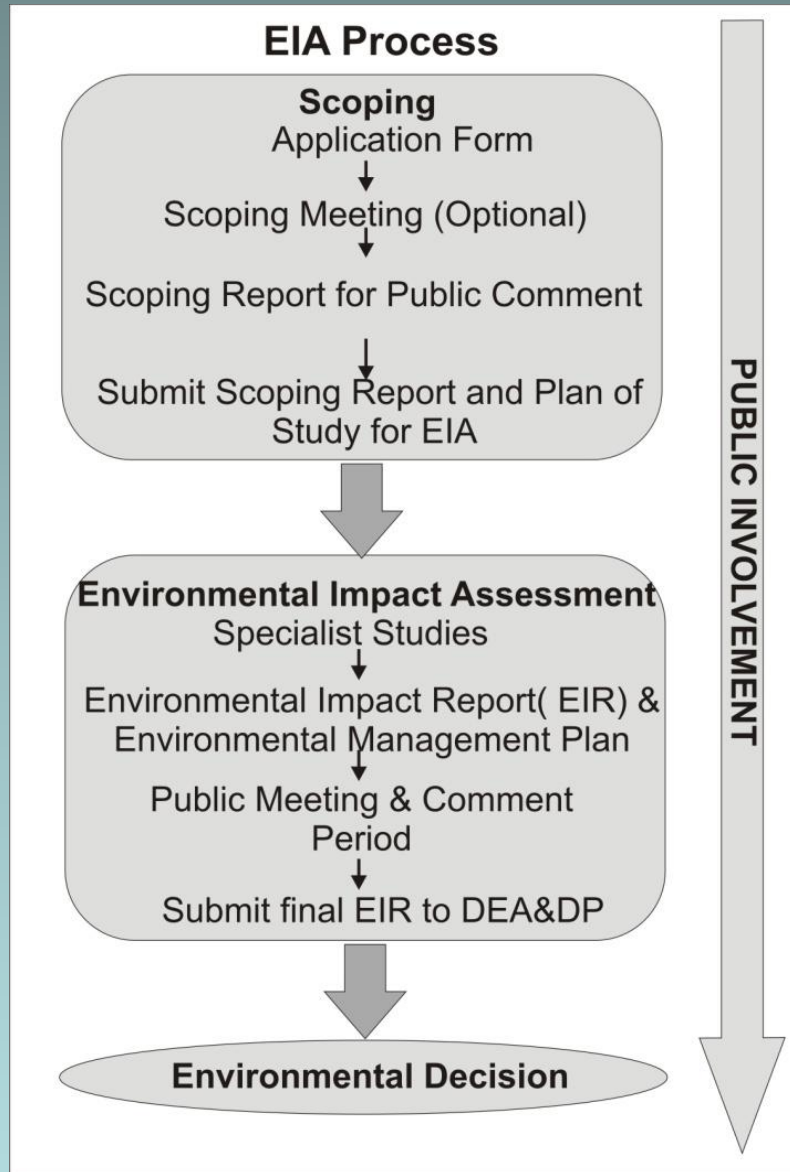
HOW DOES IT AFFECT THE INDUSTRY

Persons who lawfully conduct 'waste management activities' (generation, disposal, treatment etc) listed on the date of coming into effect of this notice may continue with those activities until such time that the Minister by notice in the Gazette calls upon those persons to apply for waste management licenses.

Unless an abattoir **EXPANDS, UPGRADES or CHANGES ITS WASTE MANAGEMENT PRACTICE** (i.e. alternative disposal, treatment) the owner/operator is not obliged by law to obtain a Waste Management License (WML) unless instructed to do so.



HOW DOES IT AFFECT THE INDUSTRY



LONG-TERM OPTION / SOLUTION

NORMS & STANDARDS

VOLUNTARY PROCESS - A PARTICULAR INDUSTRY ASSISTS WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF 'STANDARDS' OF OPERATION

IMPACTS ARE KNOWN, THE ENVIRONMENTAL WITHIN WHICH IT TAKES PLACE IS WELL-KNOWN, MITIGATIONS ARE KNOWN, EASY TO MONITOR / MEASURE THE STANDARDS

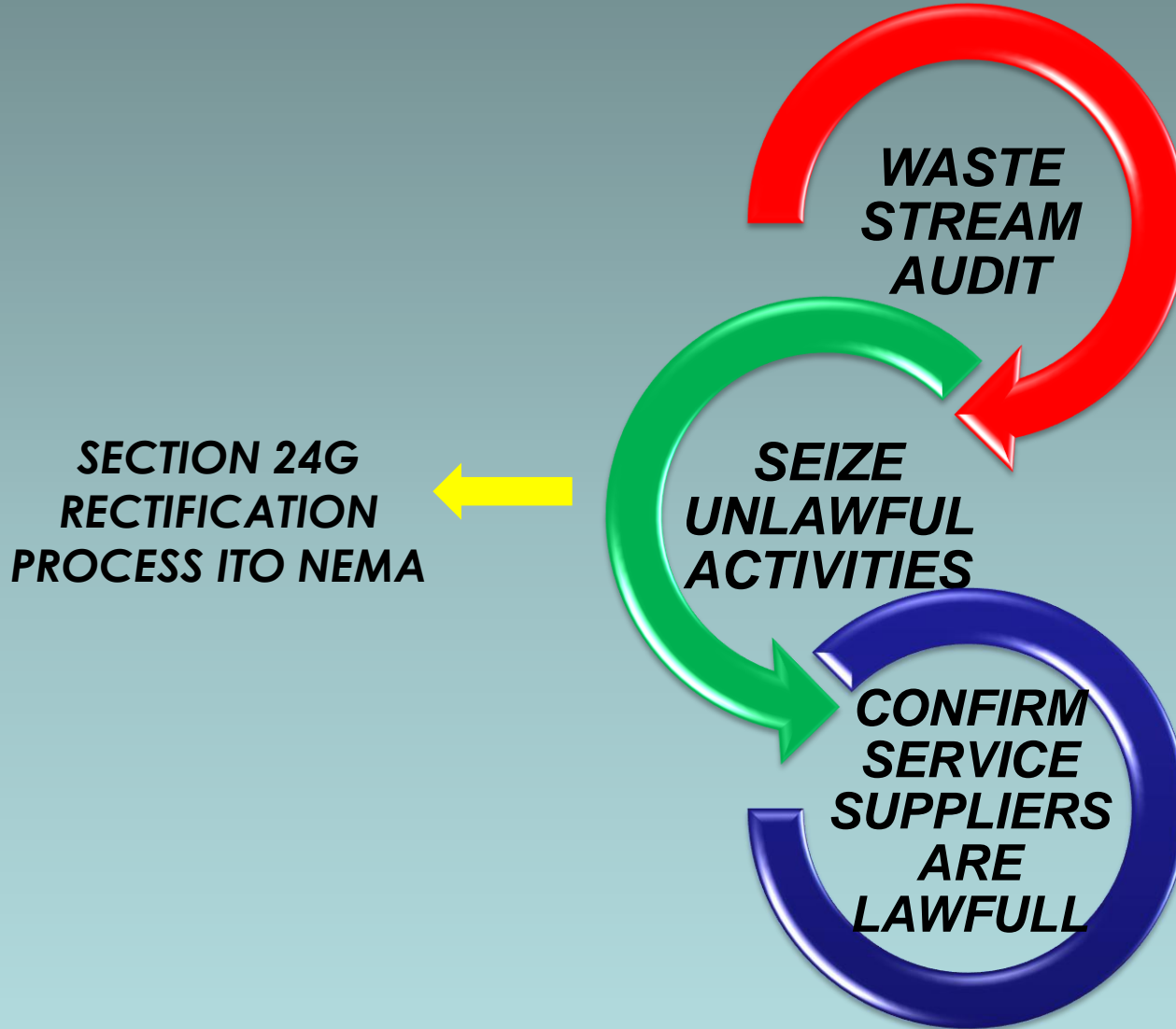
CHICKEN, AQUACULTURE & OSTRICH INDUSTRIES

DISCUSSIONS UNDERWAY BETWEEN INDUSTRY & DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS & DEVELOPMENT PLANNING (DEA&DP) – 20 April 2012 (*Health, Environmental Affairs, Agriculture, Pollution Management*)

IF N&S COULD BE DEVELOPED / ACCEPTED = ELIMINATE THE NEED FOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESSES



WHAT ACTIONS SHOULD YOU TAKE?





NO SLEEPING PLEASE