POULTRY FARM

Purpose

To facilitate the establishment and expansion of poultry farms, including broiler farms, in a manner that is consistent with orderly and proper planning and the protection of the environment.

Application

This clause applies to permit applications to use land or construct a building or construct or carry out works for a poultry farm, including to increase the farm capacity of an existing poultry farm.

 Permit not required – Outdoor range area for existing broiler farm

Any requirement of this scheme relating to the use of land or to the construction of a building or the construction or carrying out of works does not apply to the use and development of land for an outdoor range area in association with an existing broiler farm provided the following requirements are met:

- There are no more than 150,000 chickens permitted on the land at any time.
- The number of chickens on the land is not increased.

This exemption does not apply to the requirements of any overlay that applies to the land.

Requirement – Broiler farm

An application to use land or construct a building or construct or carry out works for a broiler farm must comply with the Victorian Code for Broiler Farms 2009 (plus 2018 amendments).

This requirement does not apply if:

- There are no more than 10,000 chickens permitted on the land at any time; or
- The number of chickens on the land is not increased.

Exemption from notice and review

The following applications are exempt from the notice requirements of section 52 (1)(a), (b) and (d), the decision requirements of section 64(1), (2) and (3) and the review rights of section 82(1) of the Act:

- An application to use land or construct a building or construct or carry out works for a new broiler farm, or to increase the farm capacity of an existing broiler farm, if the application meets the requirements of a “Class A Broiler Farm”, as specified in the Victorian Code for Broiler Farms 2009 (plus 2018 amendments).

- An application to use land or construct a building or construct or carry out works for a poultry farm for the production of chicken meat or chicken eggs, if the application meets the following requirements:
  - The number of chickens does not exceed 5,000 for egg production or 10,000 for meat production.
  - The outdoor stocking density does not exceed 1,500 chickens per hectare.

- A Nutrient Management Plan demonstrates chickens are kept outdoors on paddocks with:
  - A minimum of 50% ground cover; and
  - Mobile housing and feeding infrastructure that is relocated at least every two weeks.

- An area used as a poultry range, including associated buildings and works, meets the setback requirements specified in Table 1.
Table 1 Minimum setbacks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chicken numbers</th>
<th>Minimum distance to a building used for a sensitive use (accommodation, child care centre, education centre and hospital)</th>
<th>Minimum distance to land in a residential zone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1,000 chickens or less</td>
<td>50 metres</td>
<td>200 metres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More than 1,000 chickens</td>
<td>100 metres</td>
<td>400 metres</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Notice of an application

Notice of an application to use or develop land to establish a new broiler farm, or to increase the farm capacity of an existing broiler farm, that meets the requirements of a Special Class Broiler Farm or Farm Cluster as specified in the *Victorian Code for Broiler Farms 2009 (plus 2018 amendments)*, must be given under Section 52(1)(c) of the Act to the person or body specified as a person or body to be notified in Clause 66.05.

Decision guidelines

Before deciding on an application to use land or construct a building or construct or carry out works, in addition to the decision guidelines in Clause 65, the responsible authority must consider, as appropriate:

- The purpose of the relevant zone.
- The design, height, setback and appearance of the proposed buildings and works.
- The proposed landscaping.
- The need to protect amenity of existing uses on adjoining land.
- The impact of the use of the land on the surrounding area, including from the emission of noise, light, vibration, odour, dust, or waste products.
- The impact of the proposal on any wetlands, waterways or water bodies.
- The likely environmental impact on the natural physical features and biodiversity of the land, including consideration of any Nutrient Management Plan submitted with the application.
- Whether the development will support and enhance agricultural production.
- The requirements of the *Victorian Low Density Mobile Outdoor Poultry Farm Planning Permit Guidelines* (June 2018).