



Howlong Petfood Processing Facility EIS

Overview

Cool Off Pty Ltd is proposing upgrades to its existing Howlong Petfood Processing Facility at 271 Jude Road, Howlong NSW 2646.

The Project site is contained to the existing Cool Off facility landholding, approximately 2 km north-east of the Howlong township, with associated land application areas located along Kywong-Howlong Road, Howlong.

The Project

Cool Off is seeking approval to upgrade its existing pet food manufacturing and animal by-product processing facility. The facility does not involve the slaughter of livestock.

The proposed upgrades include:

- Providing for 100,000 MT production capacity per year in line with the volume authorised by the Environment Protection Authority.
- Continued on-site irrigation of treated wastewater in accordance with the existing EPA licence.

The purpose

The upgrades aim to:



Support sustainable long-term operations in the region



Ensure environmental compliance and responsible wastewater management



Continue servicing domestic and international pet food markets



Allow for natural variation in market opportunity

Development application process

The Project is classified as Designated Development under Part 4 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (EP&A Act) and requires the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

- **Consent Authority:** Federation Council
- **Consulting Agencies:** Environmental Protection Authority (EPA)

Cool Off submitted a Scoping Report to DPHI in March 2023 and received the Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) on 18 April 2023. These requirements outline the detailed studies needed to prepare the EIS, which is currently underway.



Construction timeline (staged approach)

The staging includes:

<p>Stage 1: 2026 – 2027</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The original plant one equipment will be decommissioned and replaced in Plant 2 with new technology which will incorporate improved quality, environmental performance, and process efficiencies. A new Waste Water Treatment Plant constructed to upgrade the standard of irrigation-quality treated wastewater (stage one).
<p>Stage 2: 2027</p>	<p>Plant 2 will be expanded to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional processing space. This will provide for all raw incoming material will be received in a chilled controlled facility, improving environmental performance and reduced odour risk. A new ofal processing area.
<p>Stage 3: 2027-2028</p>	<p>Processing activities across Plants 1 and 2 will be reorganised to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve product flow through the site Create space for new equipment. Improved production manufacturing productivity and efficiency. Stage two of the waste water treatment plant is to be investigated to further improve irrigation water quality.
<p>Stage 4: 2028-2029 Concept Only</p>	<p>The rendering and powder production equipment will be decommissioned and replaced in Plant 1 with new technology which will incorporate improved quality, environmental performance, and process efficiencies.</p>
<p>Stage 5: 2030+ Concept Only</p>	<p>Concept: reconfigure freezer assets to be consolidated to improve efficiency.</p>

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

The EIS will provide a comprehensive assessment of the proposed upgrades and will consider specialist studies including:

- Air quality and odour
- Noise and vibration
- Soil and water
- Heritage (Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal)
- Wastewater and waste management
- Biosecurity, disease management and animal welfare.

Community and stakeholder feedback will be considered and summarised within the EIS.

Once completed, the EIS will be placed on public exhibition, allowing the community and government agencies to review the proposal and provide submissions.

Where submissions are received, Cool Off may be required to prepare a Submissions Report, responding to issues raised before a determination is made.

About Cool Off

Cool Off is an Australian company specialising in the collection, processing and manufacture of raw protein ingredients for the pet food industry. Established in 1982, the company supplies domestic and international markets and processes more than 70,000 tonnes of raw material annually, employing over 150 staff.

In 2024, Cool Off was acquired by BHI Pty Ltd, a global supplier of meat and fish raw materials headquartered in Denmark. This partnership strengthens Cool Off's technical capability and international supply network.

Questions and feedback

If you have a question or need more information, please reach out.

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E: engage@nghengage.com.au
P: (02) 6052 4000 (during business hours)

Or complete the feedback survey via the QR code.

