

SPRINGS SPCA
INSPECTOR REPORT

PHBB11240

Complaint Reference No.

Building:
Street: N12 HIGHWAY
Suburb: DELMAS
Postal Code:
Inspector: ANNECIA MORTON
Date of Inspection: 2025-02-11
Time of Inspection: 10:07

RESPONDENT'S DETAILS

Name:
Company:
Identification:
Email:
Tel 1:
Tel 2:

REPORT

Access Granted By: JAN THERON
Comment:
Were Animals Seen on the Property: No
Relationship to Property Owner: Other
Captured By: ANNECIA LE ROUX 2025-02-11 11:41

CHECKLISTS

CONFINEMENT OF ANIMALS	Caged - adequate space	TRAILER
ADEQUATE SPACE AVAILABLE	Yes	
CLEAN LIVING ENVIRONMENT	Yes	
WATER AVAILABLE	No ***	
ADEQUATE SHELTER AVAILABLE	Yes	
ANIMALS IN GOOD CONDITION	No ***	BURNT DUE TO FIRE

General Report Comments: Photographic evidence: All photographic evidence have been forwarded to Inspector Kabelo and Inspector Appasamy via WhatsApp
Incident Report: Molare Truck Fire on N12 Highway

Date: Sunday, 9 February 2024

Time of Call: Approximately 10:30 AM

Location: N12 Highway, near Kendal

Responding Officers: Inspector Annecia le Roux & Field Officer Foreman

Incident Summary:

On Sunday, 9 February 2024, at approximately 10:30 AM, the Springs SPCA received an urgent call from our sister society in Witbank. They reported that they had received a call about a truck transporting pigs that had caught fire while traveling on the N12 highway in the direction of Delmas.

Field Officer Foreman and I immediately responded to the scene and arrived just outside Kendal, where we found a Molare truck carrying approximately 190 pigs, that was travelling from EDE Farming, Middleburg. Mr. Jan Theron, explained that a wheel bearing had seized, generating extreme heat that ultimately ignited the tires.

Inspection & Findings:

Upon inspecting the truck, I focused on locating compromised animals. The pigs housed in the trailer section above the burning wheels had already succumbed to the fire, with an estimated 34 pigs burned to death.

I climbed to the top section of the trailer to assess the condition of the remaining pigs. Several were already deceased, while 3 pigs were in severe distress due to extensive burns. I performed emergency slaughter on these pigs to prevent further suffering.

Animal Relocation & Intervention:

Mr. Theron informed me that another truck had arrived earlier to transport five pigs from the lower trailer section to an abattoir. Unfortunately, seven pigs had been stolen during the incident.

Efforts were made to ensure the remaining pigs were safely transported:

- The back section of the trailer, containing approximately 130 pigs, was secured for continued transport to the abattoir at approximately 12:00.
- A replacement truck was arranged for the front trailer, accommodating the remaining 66 pigs.
- I personally supervised the transfer of these pigs to ensure their safe handling, this truck left at approximately 13:20.

Follow-Up & SPCA Coordination:

I contacted Kempton Park SPCA and requested their assistance with inspecting the pigs at the Molare abattoir in Olifantsfontein. They were to assess the condition of the animals and ensure humane handling of any compromised pigs requiring emergency protocols.

Inspector Kabelo from NSPCA and I made multiple attempts to establish contact with the abattoir, emphasizing the urgency of having a qualified inspector present to oversee the pigs' welfare. However, we encountered little to no cooperation from the facility. They only had landlines and no emergency number we could find, I was furnished with a number the following day from Mr Theron for Eben 0765125035.

Observations & Concerns:

- The local fire department successfully extinguished the fire and provided additional aid by spraying the pigs with water to reduce their body temperature.
- A fire extinguisher was present on the truck but had not been used. Upon closer inspection, it appeared that the extinguisher may have been empty.

Conclusion and recommendations:

This incident highlights significant concerns regarding animal welfare during transport, emergency

preparedness, and the responsiveness of abattoirs in such situations.

- Review & Enforce Transport Standards: Ensure transport companies comply with proper safety measures, including functional fire suppression equipment and that drivers are trained on how to handle emergencies including the use of fire extinguishers.
- Abattoir Cooperation & Compliance: Strengthen protocols requiring abattoirs to cooperate with SPCA inspections, particularly in emergency cases.

ACTIONS

OTHER

NSPCA INTERVENED

REPORT OUTCOMES