



Note-to-File

Subject: Meeting with ALEC	
Date: 3/6/2011	File Number:
Prepared by: Penny Parrish	
Type of contact: Meeting at DAFF offices 3:30pm	
Name of contact/s, attendee/s:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ ALEC<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Lach MacKinnon, Chief Executive Officer▪ DAFF<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Phillip Glyde, Deputy Secretary○ Rona Mellor, Deputy Secretary○ Allen Grant, Executive Manager○ Jo Evans, Executive Manager○ Greg Reid, Executive Manager○ Lee Cale, General Manager○ Penny Parrish, Executive Officer	
Summary:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ DAFF advised that the purpose of the meeting was to work through the plan that Industry had provided to the Minister earlier in the day and to provide advice on the scope and content in order to strengthen the overall plan▪ LM advised that Industry were drafting a press release for this afternoon to announce the plan and letter they had sent to the Minister▪ DAFF stated that the plan, at best, presents an overall concept. The plan lacks detail and specificity. This position has been confirmed by the Minister's Office. It would therefore be unwise to press release as the Minister would not be in a position to support the plan▪ LM left the room and provided this advice to his Industry members to 'pull' the press release▪ DAFF suggested that Industry need to consider the impacts of voluntarily putting in place a temporary pause▪ LM stated that the concern Industry would have with this action is the high value of the contracts in place noting that shipping contracts are in place up to two years out, cattle are in the pipeline three weeks out and the engagement of lawyers etc.▪ DAFF advised that the plan needed to provide confidence and assurance that the	

measures proposed by Industry could be put in place through an appropriate framework and in a reasonable timeframe and that this detail and rigour would enable the Minister to stand with industry

- DAFF stated that the use of Mark I boxes is still being considered but currently are not acceptable and at best are troublesome. The need for transparency demanded by the Public was noted – in response the plan needs to:
 - prescribe OIE standards
 - provide timelines against commitments (noted that milestones are useful to identify progress points)
 - include an auditing, monitoring, assurance and evaluation framework that is good and independent
- DAFF noted that whilst there are 12 facilities that have been identified there are still a large number of facilities where the standards/practices are unknown. The department needs to provide advice on the proposition of stunning and whether it is achievable across all facilities. LM agreed that this is an issue that is dividing the Industry
- DAFF stated that stunning is an issue but the entire supply chain is important. Given the Department were not the setters of standards in Indonesia, the best opportunity is to hook into the OIE Standards and apply them to practices from ship up to and including slaughter – it is therefore important to specify 'what' the operational process is that will be considered compliant with OIE Standards
- LM confirmed his understanding on the supply chain from port to slaughter, they would specify OIE compliance of the box, develop standard operating procedures and auditing criteria
- DAFF suggested that the plan needed to answer a burning question for the public and other stakeholders – 'How many more animals will be inhumanly slaughtered while you fix this?'
- LM stated that the plan would also highlight the roles of industry and Government and recommending the level of risk assigned to these roles

Key Outcomes

- LM confirmed he would work with his Industry members to ensure the plan provided the specificity required and would keep in mind the need for transparency and the expectations of the public
- In summary DAFF stated that the plan needed to contain more detail, be crisper, small in scope, standards driven and above all – 'doable' – this would provide a better chance of gaining support from the Minister, the Government and the consumer