



Note-to-File

Subject: Meeting with RSPCA & Animals Australia	
Date: 31/5/2011	File Number:
Prepared by: Penny Parrish	
Type of contact: Meeting at Parliament House at 1:00pm	
Name of contact/s, attendee/s:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # RSPCA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Heather Neil, Chief Executive Officer ○ Bidda Jones, Chief Scientist # Animals Australia (AA) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Glenys Oogjes, Executive Director ○ Lyn White, Campaign Director # DAFF <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Phillip Glyde, Deputy Secretary ○ Andy Carroll, Chief Veterinary Officer ○ Jo Evans, Executive Manager ○ Penny Parrish, Executive Officer 	
Summary:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # PG expressed the department's concerns regarding the footage shown on the ABC Four Corners' program Monday night # PG confirmed the department has been directed by the Minister to undertake: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Implement an immediate moratorium on the installation of new Mark I restraint boxes funded by the Commonwealth ○ Investigate all legislative and regulatory options available to the Minister and the department to improve animal welfare in the trade ○ Draft orders to enforce the complete suspension of live animal exports to the abattoirs identified in the Four Corners program ○ Establish an independent review to investigate the complete supply chain for live exports up to and including the point of slaughter ○ Coordinate an independent, scientific review of the Mark I and Mark IV restraint boxes currently in use in Indonesia # RSPCA expressed their concerns that another review is going to be undertaken, even though the evidence of their investigation is compelling and that meanwhile thousands more animals are subjected to inhumane treatment. 	

- # RSPCA and AA highlighted that they have consistently provided government with information and raised awareness over many years but it has fell on deaf ears at the government's peril.
- # RSPCA and AA stated that all the work has been done therefore the CVOs task is very easy.
- # RSPCA and AA stated that animal welfare matters to date have not been addressed by the department.
- # [allpit??] states that animals being slaughtered after falling to the ground is inhumane.
- # PG asked what options the RSPCA and AA saw were available to the Minister.
- # RSPCA and AA suggested regulation options eg. McGorrin press release, MOUs are useless and export order takes too long.
- # AC stated that the department was keen to address this matter but are not expecting that the conclusion will be anything different than the results of the RSPCA investigation. AC stated that the more information and advice from the RSPCA and AA that the department could include in the review, the quicker the assessment and report could be completed.
- # RSPCA were encouraged by the comittment to incorporate their information and to conduct the review in a timely manner.
- # PG advised that the department was approaching the industry bodies and putting the same request for any materials that would inform the CVOs assessment.
- # RSPCA and AA highlighted that Livecorp and MLA have referred to issues with the Mark I boxes in their own reports.

Key Outcomes:

- # RSPCA and AA agreed to provide all footage and any other material that will assist the department and inform the CVO assessment.
- # Dr Bidda Jones will provide the CVO with the background data used to prepare the RSPCA report
- # Both parties comitted to continued cooperation on this matter.