



Monitoring and reporting during livestock export voyages

Background

The Interim Inspector-General of Live Animal Exports (IIGLAE) is undertaking a review to examine the effectiveness and efficiency of the department's requirements, and management, of monitoring and reporting during livestock export voyages by sea.

Monitoring and reporting requirements are a primary regulatory tool available to the department to ensure industry compliance with the Australian legislation and national and international animal welfare standards.

Since 2003, four independent reviews into the livestock export industry were undertaken in response to major animal welfare incidents:

- December 2003 *Livestock Export Review* (the Keniry Review)
- August 2011 *Independent review of Australia's livestock export trade* (the Farmer Review)
- May 2018 *Independent review of conditions for the export of sheep to the Middle East during the northern hemisphere summer* (the McCarthy Review)
- September 2018 *Review of Regulatory Capability and Culture of the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources in the regulation of Live Animal Exports* (the Moss Review).

Each of these reviews identified issues with monitoring and reporting during voyages.

During a range of stakeholder discussions the effectiveness, efficiency, timeliness, independence and transparency of monitoring and reporting on livestock export voyages has been consistently raised with the IIGLAE.

Scope

The scope of this review covers the department's requirements and activities for monitoring and reporting during voyages and may consider:

- monitoring and reporting requirements from the time loading of a vessel is complete to when the last animal has been unloaded from the vessel at the overseas destination(s)
- the extent to which monitoring and reporting provides assurance of compliance with the legislation, standards, policies and procedures for the export of livestock
- the extent to which monitoring and reporting requirements support or contribute to the mitigation and management of risks to animal welfare during voyages
- the department's processes for engagement and consultation with industry, other Australian Government agencies and stakeholders such as vessel operators, in managing animal welfare issues during voyages

- the roles and responsibilities of persons directly responsible for managing and reporting of animal welfare issues during a voyage, including:
 - Independent observers
 - Australian Government accredited veterinarians (AAVs)
 - Accredited stockpersons
 - Vessel Masters.
- examine the efficacy, timeliness and transparency in the department's management and use of reports, including the extent to which they contribute to strategic risk-based regulatory practice and informing improvements in the management of animal welfare during voyages
- the department's management and use of reports to increase community and industry confidence in the effectiveness of its regulation in achieving the objectives of the legislation
- the cost effectiveness to government and industry of monitoring and reporting requirements.

Out of scope

This review will not examine:

- the investigation process of reportable incidents
- the role of approved arrangements involved in loading and pre-export preparation of livestock
- livestock exported by air
- vessel preparation or onboard waste disposal
- Exporter Supply Chain Assurance System (ESCAS) reporting requirements.

Preparing your submission

Prior to making a submission it is recommended that you consider the scope of the review. Submissions that address topics outside of the scope may not be considered further.

When making a submission, the inclusion of specific examples or data, where possible, will assist the Interim Inspector-General. Submissions are not required to meet a defined format or length but you should include a summary of your key comments if the submission is greater than three pages.

Contact

If you wish to discuss this review or how to make a submission you can contact iglae@agriculture.gov.au or call +61 2 6271 6361.