

Livestock export permit systems and processes

The Inspector-General of Live Animal Exports (IGLAE) is undertaking a review to examine the effectiveness and efficiency of the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment's (the department) requirements, management and approval process of livestock export permits and health certificates.

A livestock exporter must hold a livestock export licence issued under the *Australian Meat and Live-stock Industry Act 1997* and the Australian Meat and Live-stock Industry (Export Licensing) Regulations 1998. The Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment (the department) is responsible for issuing a livestock export licence. All livestock exporters need an approved arrangement framework to be able to export livestock.

A licensed exporter must submit their notice of intention (NOI) to export each livestock consignment at least 10 working days before the proposed export. The department's Tracking Animal Certification for Export (TRACE) system allows for online applications. The exporter must provide a departmental veterinary officer core documents to support assessment of an export permit application. Core documents for each market vary based on the specific requirements of the importing country and are subject to change.

Examples of core documents include:

- an import permit of the importing country
- any existing dispensations
- transit permits (between differing countries)
- blood test results
- tag lists
- animal treatments
- heat stress risk assessment models or heat stress management plans
- load plans
- reject lists
- Property of Origin Certificates
- any variations.

In scope

The scope of this review covers the department's requirements and activities for issuing livestock export permits and health certificates, and will consider:

- consignment specific export plans (CSEPs)
- compliance management including investigation, suspension, sanction and revoking process
- timeframes for issuing permits
- handling of answering exporters' concerns
- issuing of a health certificate and export permit by the regional departmental veterinary officer
- TRACE system

- audit document requirements
- importing country requirements, protocols and core documents
- livestock inspection at the registered premises or approved premises for air and sea
- ASEL requirements pertaining to registered or approved premises and loading of livestock onto vessels or aircraft
- competency training programs of departmental staff
- the roles and responsibilities of persons directly responsible for undertaking the livestock exporter's Approved Export Program (AEP), those including:
 - land based Australian Government accredited veterinarians (AAVs)
 - livestock exporters
 - personnel listed in management and control to oversee loading of the animals onto the vessel or aircraft.
- the extent to which current requirements support the mitigation and management of risks to animal health and welfare
- the department's processes for engagement and consultation with industry, other Australian Government agencies and stakeholders

Out of scope

This review will not examine:

- Australian certificate for the carriage of livestock (ACCL) issued by the Australian Maritime Safety Authority
- Marine Order 43 (Cargo and cargo handling – live-stock) 2018
- ESCAS requirements (subject of a separate IGLAE review)
- species other than livestock (cattle, sheep, goats, buffalo, deer, camelids)
- approved arrangements (subject of a separate IGLAE review)
- shipboard Australian Government accredited veterinarians (AAVs)
- exporter's approved export plan (AEP)
- competent authority of the importing country
- import permit issued by the importing country
- export of sheep between May-October that travel through waters in the Arabian Sea north of latitude 11°N.

Preparing your submission

Prior to making a submission it is recommended that you consider the scope of the review above; 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 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