

To Whom it May Concern

We are writing in our capacity as a member of the Northern Territory Cattlemen's Association, who we believe has received an extension to lodge submissions until close of business on 22 July, 2011.

The Consolidated Pastoral Company has exported live cattle to Indonesia and other countries for many years. The live cattle trade to Indonesia represents anywhere between 40% - 80% of our business and is therefore a major reason for our existence. The livelihoods of our staff and their respective families, as well as our associated contractors and suppliers depends heavily upon the Indonesian live export cattle trade.

We remain fully committed to the Indonesian live export trade because:

- We believe it remains key to the long term viability of the cattle trade in Northern Australia. Cattle bred in Northern Australia are well suited to the Indonesian environment, more so than being moved vast distances by road or rail to abattoirs in South Eastern Australia. Even if cattle are able to be moved on a large scale from Northern to South Eastern Australia, in our opinion the logistics and economics of the meat processing industry in Australia will be unable to meet the demands of the Indonesian market which are now catered for by the live export trade.
- We should maintain our dominant market position in Indonesia not just to protect our borders from sub-standard product, but also to ensure that welfare standards are applied equally to all animals, not just to those emanating from Australia.
- We have a responsibility to get it right. The story portrayed to date is not properly representative of Indonesia and its people. We are totally convinced that we can build a responsible and transparent trade. Change of this magnitude requires momentum and we have that opportunity now.
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We currently own 50% of a feedlot in Sumatra, Indonesia which has the capacity to feed 35,000 cattle. Our Indonesian partners in this feedlot have to date purchased and installed stunning equipment in independent abattoirs in Sumatra island. We fully support our partners in their endeavours and have agreed to participate in their plan to install 25 stunners in abattoirs throughout Sumatra. This plan includes the training of abattoir staff as well as the appointment of inspectors to oversee the slaughter process and maintenance of equipment. The plan also includes using the existing NLIS tagging system to trace cattle at any point in the supply chain. Once fully implemented this plan has the ability to provide for the processing of 150 to 200 head per day in Sumatra in facilities exceeding OIE standards with full traceability per beast. Most importantly, responsibility for the plan will ultimately be taken on by Indonesians, with assistance from external resources, including from CPC staff.

This plan, in conjunction with CPC operations, guarantees quality and traceability of cattle from the paddock; through trucking and shipping; feedlotting in Indonesia; as well as the supply to and processing within Indonesian abattoirs. We believe it represents an important extension to the existing plans promoted by the Australian industry and the stand alone closed Indonesian facilities, in that it allows for:

- An efficient method to process increased volumes;
- Guarantees supply to 45 million people throughout Sumatra;
- Gives ownership of the process to a wide range of Indonesians; and
- Is abreast and capable of catering for ongoing improvements.

It's critical for the industry that the Federal Government provides clarity on the rules and regulations for the trade. Most operators in Northern Australia have limited options for their cattle, and their viability depends on decisions being made urgently. We believe a multi-tiered approach to recommencement of the trade would help sustain the livelihood of many operators in Australia and Indonesia prior to a full recommencement of a transparent and long-term sustainable trade.

Ken Warriner