

SUBMISSION

From AMAWA SENATE ENQUIRY IMPROVEMENTS IN ANIMAL WELFARE FOR AUSTRALIAN LIVE EXPORTS

Thank you for the opportunity to submit our comments to the 2011 Enquiry into Live Exports

2. Investigate and report on the domestic economic impact of the live export trade within Australia including:

c) Impact on the processing of live stock within Australia.

3. Other related matters.

We see no reason why MLA or whoever was in charge of these Animals have not been charge for Animal Cruelty. Given nobody has been charged and assuming the governments excuse is we cannot charge people outside Australia then we have no option but to call for an immediate Ban on Live Exports. According to the cattlemen not one thing has changed. Will this government now charge the cattleman of Australia. We believe everybody has known for years how Animals are treated not only going Indonesia but worldwide. MLA marketing should ONLY be spent on Providing new abattoirs in Australia.

The furphy's there are no markets for these products is just that. We already have the markets and contacts. All we need is cooperation .

Our Society contacted Mr Ludwigs office several times. This was to assist this Government to expand abattoirs in Australia through our unique contacts with countries requiring Halal meat.

As well we offered the services of John Howards former advisor for ten years in Halal matters and his assistant in sorting the problems out in the Indonesian abattoirs.

It was a very kind offer from both these gentleman with only wishes to assist and best of intentions. This was on the Mon 20/06/2011 9:47 AM

There was no interest from Mr Ludwigs office. In fact staff were aggressive and rude. After which we contacted Julia Gillard's office. There was a very astute polite lady in the Prime Minister's office who requested the two gentleman's names to be faxed through which we did. We promised to call back the next morning but another lady answered the phone.

We tried to inform the PM also of information about something called the **PLAN to set UP the government using threats of media stunts and shooting cattle to upset public** and force our Prime Minister to resume live exports. However this staff person hung up in our ear. It is very concerning that staff in Mr Ludwigs office and at least one staff member in Julia Gillard's office are so unprofessional. We have done nothing more than try to assist this government with expanding markets and Australian plants, warning them of a set up. We were offering to fly John Howards former advisor of ten years with extensive experience & friendships with Indonesia. In return Mr Ludwigs office staff have been completely rude and unhelpful.

That aside our contact with Minister Ludwigs office was to let it be known we had the ability to invite investors into abattoirs in Australia and wanting to work with a government body. There was no interest in this which was disappointing .

We were not even informed of this so called feasibility study to build abattoirs in WA or NT. The question is why not? Nor has this Ministers staff had the manners to respond to a genuine offer of assistance in Indonesia by these two kind gentleman just for the record. His staff are rude and disinterested. Almost aggressive if you dare mention building Abattoirs in Australia - interesting.

To examine this so called feasibility study shall we .

After tripping over the information on the net that Minister Ludwigs Response to 4 corners was to order a feasibility study to build abattoirs we were unimpressed that this Ministers office had not informed us knowing our acute interest . The other thing that caught our attention was Mr Ludwig had allocated this feasibility study to be carried out by a company with a conflict of interest in live exports the AACO. Now its been alleged for YEARS that these issues are always a white wash.

- Our question is to Joe Ludwig and our Prime Minister is why give the feasibility study to a company that so clearly has a conflict of interest?

Lets now examine what priority AACO has given this=

<http://www.aaco.com.au/>

We can't see anything on AACO web sites announcing and prompting, promoting & inviting interested parties can you?

This live export issue has been a big thing. They have even called an inquiry into it – but we see NOTHING on AACO web site promoting the feasibility study and asking interested investors . To be certain of our suspicions however and to be

very fair- We contacted the AACO to inform them of our interest and our project.

The person we spoke with did not mention the feasibility study.

He stated it would make no difference to the live trade which we of course already were well aware of. He said this was already in the planning well before the ban and there were no plans to build more after that one.

There was zero interest in working with us to bring in investors to open MORE new plants – none.

Well, fair enough after all they are in the live trade and it was/ is a conflict of interest- which beggars' the question **WHY Minister Ludwig gave the feasibility study to a company who has clearly a conflict of interest?**

We had a similar response with the WA company given the feasibility study. Left messages but although one gentleman did contact us by phone, he has not responded to emails and messages.

Therefore we ask the inquiry to appoint a independent companies to carry out feasibility studies as a matter of urgency. Better still put those funds into a promote Australia campaign and we will work for free to bring investors into Australia through our contacts. Perhaps this government would be better to hand this task over to Animals Australia or RSPCA and other organisations that are sincere in their intentions to find alternative markets. It would be clear to any normal thinking person this government – like the one before it -is not sincere in finding alternative markets and value adding but remains 100% determined to only promote live exports in keeping with Elders, Landmark and others preferences.

Sadly, it is clear this government fully intends to keep sending animals alive to third world countries to be tortured to death. Please note we are NOT animal liberationists but people wanting to build more abattoirs and create jobs and value adding for Australia while killing humanely .

This Government now has the opportunity to remove our nation's GREATEST shame. The entire world is talking about Australia being the second largest if not the largest live animal exporter. It is also a matter of record motions were passed in congress years ago by Australian Muslim leaders they clearly say live exports is inherently cruel asking the media and the government to report the truth to the public about the real reasons for this vile trade.

We ask the Government and media yet again to stop misinforming the public. Muslims want live exports banned because its cruel (harem).

Evidence of Mr Ludwigs office Misleading - On subject of Ritual Slaughter current & prior.

For many past months we had inquired when this government were to hold the review into ritual slaughter in Australia that was called in 2008- see here-

With regard to the Federal Government's review into religious slaughter arrangements which is yet to be completed, there is some information here http://www.daff.gov.au/animal-plant-health/welfare/aaws/specifying_the_risks_to_animal_welfare_associated_with_livestock_slaughter_without_induced_insensibility and here http://www.daff.gov.au/animal-plant-health/welfare/aaws/a_scientific_comment_on_the_welfare_of_sheep_slaughtered_without_stunning. You would have to contact the Animal Welfare Branch regarding the status of this review

We have been informed ""many times "" by telephone from heads of DAFF that NOTHING is happening in regards into any inquiries meetings reviews on ritual slaughter in Australia . This includes in writing below what we finally received back.

Letter from Minister Ludwigs office here=

From: Ludwig, Joe (Senator) [<mailto:Senator.Ludwig@aph.gov.au>]

Sent: Friday, 1 July 2011 2:16 PM

Subject: RE: OFFER OF HELP TO _ GOES UNANSWERED BY YOUR MINISTERS OFFICE

Good afternoon

As per the email below, your email is being referred to relevant departments for action.

This office will be taking no further action in relation to the matters you have raised.

Thank you.

Office of Joe Ludwig

Minister for Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry

End:

That letter from Minister Joe Ludwigs office was in reply to our letter sent to them on the 1st, July 2011.

Copy of our letter enquiring about meetings in regards to ritual slaughter=

From:

Sent: Friday, 1 July 2011 3:35 PM

To: 'Ludwig, Joe (Senator)'

Subject: RE: OFFER OF HELP TO _ GOES UNANSWERED BY YOUR MINISTERS OFFICE

Good Afternoon

Thank you for your reply,

I would also like to bring to your offices attention that we wish to contribute to the inquiry that was called into the inquiry below specifying the risks to animal welfare associated with livestock slaughter without induced insensibility see below. My colleague has spoken with Mr Tim Lester this morning who informed that there has not been an inquiry despite that it was called upon by the Government in 2008. He informed us that he was under the belief that the Government had spoken with "some of the stake holders but not invited openly comments from all stake holders. We ask when the Government will be doing so.? We are requesting the Minister inform us how we may best participate and have our views registered. MY colleague spoke with Mr Tim Lester who advised we contact your office. Pls direct me to instructions to contribute and provide us with details on when this inquiry will finally commence.

Thank You

With regard to the Federal Government's review into religious slaughter arrangements which is yet to be completed, there is some information here http://www.daff.gov.au/animal-plant-health/welfare/aaws/specifying_the_risks_to_animal_welfare_associated_with_livestock_slaughter_without_induced_insensibility and here http://www.daff.gov.au/animal-plant-health/welfare/aaws/a_scientific_comment_on_the_welfare_of_sheep_slaughtered_without_stunning. You would have to contact the Animal Welfare Branch regarding the status of this review.

End:

Yet we are now aware there *have been* meetings in several states that I believe Minister Ludwig requested.

It doesn't look like you're doing nothing Mr Ludwigs it looks like your office mislead us . So the question is why have we been mislead?

Here are just some of those meetings =

<http://www.abc.net.au/rural/news/content/201107/s3271781.htm>

Ministers fail to endorse proposal for compulsory cattle stunning

Monday, 18/07/2011

A proposal by South Australia Agriculture Minister Michael O'Brien to introduce mandatory pre-stunning of cattle in Australian abattoirs has not been accepted by other federal and state ministers.

The Primary Industries Ministerial Council will meet again in three months to discuss the issue.

All Queensland cattle are stunned before slaughter, and that state's minister, Tim Mulherin, says he supports the humane slaughter of animals and stunning is part of that process.

"What council decided was that senior officials will undertake consultation with stakeholders around stunning and report back to the next Ministerial Council, which will be held at the end of October this year."



Queensland Primary Industry Minister, Tim Mulherin, supports compulsory stunning of cattle at Australian abattoirs. (Arlie Douglas)

- <http://www.adelaidenow.com.au/agriculture-minister-demands-mandatory-stunning-for-cattle/story-e6frea6u-1226094187730>

A PLAN to make stunning of animals compulsory before slaughtering has been deferred for three months.

A meeting of federal and state agriculture ministers in Perth yesterday rejected a South Australian bid to institute national mandatory stunning immediately.

SA Agriculture Minister Michael O'Brien had moved for the national policy, saying it was hypocritical of Australia to insist exported cattle and animals should be stunned before being slaughtered when there were abattoirs here still engaged in ritual slaughtering.

It is understood NSW, Victoria and WA expressed reservations about the SA proposal. There is intense lobbying in the eastern states, especially from the Jewish community, to ensure kosher slaughter of animals, where their throats are cut and they are left to bleed to death, be allowed to continue.

In an communique released after the meeting, the ministerial council stated it had discussed domestic arrangements for ritual slaughter and asked officials to finalise consultations with stakeholders and report to the first meeting of the standing council on primary industries.

This meeting will probably be in October.

Mr O'Brien said opponents of the move said they were not familiar with the scientific evidence on ritual slaughter, despite the NZ Government already accepting evidence that ritual slaughter without stunning caused significant distress to animals. "I think I have gingered them up a bit," he said. "There is an acceptance that we can't allow this issue to ride along unresolved.

"The Australian community is no longer prepared to accept these practices.

"There is no real excuse any more for state and Commonwealth ministers to skirt around the issue."

More than 300 people rallied at Perth's Langley Park as federal Agriculture Minister Joe Ludwig met state ministers at a nearby hotel.

After the rally some of the farmers marched to the hotel to try to confront Mr Ludwig with their concerns about the live export trade.

After the meeting, the ministerial communiqué stated the Commonwealth and states would continue to work with the industry to monitor and address the impact of the suspension and resumption of trade for live animal exports to Indonesia.

END

So the question is why have we been misled?

I will just post the Ministers office response "once more" to our months of enquires into ritual slaughter& as well as heads of federal departments **misinforming us**
? =

Letter from Minister Ludwigs office here=

From: Ludwig, Joe (Senator) [<mailto:Senator.Ludwig@aph.gov.au>]

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Thank you.

Office of Joe Ludwig

Minister for Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry

End:

So the question is why did Minister Ludwigs office(it would appear) go out of its way and possibly even "conspire" to exclude us from having input .

We had previously forwarded this copy of a media release informing the Minister we supported RSPCA on for Halal slaughter- stunning=

Press Release

The Australian Federation of Islamic Societies (AFIS) and Halal Kind Meats (HKM) strongly oppose the export of live cattle abroad and support the process of stunning the cattle before halal or non-halal slaughtering. The process of stunning should be applied to the animal while it is standing on its feet. The intensity of stunning should be such that if the animal is left un-slaughtered it should be able to get up and walk away.

In order to minimize the level of stress and anxiety to the cattle it is imperative that when an animal is being slaughtered the other animals should be isolated and kept away.

Stunning is the most humane way of making the animals unconscious before slaughtering and it ensures that they suffer the least pain.

This method of stunning complies with the States and Federal legislations.

Contact:

End:

On the same day we received the email letter from Minister Ludwigs office we contacted a Barrister for Animals to inform him & wrote this email letter=

-----Original Message-----

From:

Sent: Friday, 1 July 2011 2:05 PM

To: 'Graeme McEwen'

Subject: RE: Statement by authority on Islamic slaughter

Hello Graeme,

FYI

According to the Department the are not having a review on ritual slaughter.

This is the recommendation of Peter McGauran .

I have pointed out that the majority of Islamic leaders support stunning and that we should be entitled to lodge our standards.

I have also pointed out that with the opening of the new society AFIS working united with each State in Australia we hold majority of the vote.

The majority support RSPCA to stun Animals. The gentleman I spoke with was very nice and wanted to assist. He informed us the only thing we can do now is write to Senator Ludwig informing him of our views and support for RSPCA. So from my view they have shut down an inquiry before it started & review of ritual slaughter in Australia

We will be drafting a letter & forwarding you a copy to use in any way you see fit. We want to call upon the Government to hold this review urgently.

If you have any ideas right now on how we can force the government to address this I would appreciate your thoughts. Tell us what you require to help Animals and we will deliver.

Here is the link RSPCA sent & I am referring to the bottom one of course.

End:

RSPCA Also misinformed us on this matter copy here=

As discussed on the phone, we strongly recommend that you contribute your views to the two inquiries currently being conducted by the Australian government:

With regard to the Federal Government's review into religious slaughter arrangements which is yet to be completed, there is some information here [http://www.daff.gov.au/animal-plant-health/welfare/aaws/specifying the risks to animal welfare associated with livestock slaughter without induced insensibility](http://www.daff.gov.au/animal-plant-health/welfare/aaws/specifying_the_risks_to_animal_welfare_associated_with_livestock_slaughter_without_induced_insensibility) and here [http://www.daff.gov.au/animal-plant-health/welfare/aaws/a scientific comment on the welfare of sheep slaughtered without stunning](http://www.daff.gov.au/animal-plant-health/welfare/aaws/a_scientific_comment_on_the_welfare_of_sheep_slaughtered_without_stunning). You would have to contact the Animal Welfare Branch regarding the status of this review.

'Hope this helps.

Kind regards
RSPCA Australia

E rspca@rspca.org.au W www.rspca.org.au
P 02 6282 8300 F 02 6282 8311
PO Box 265, Deakin West ACT 2600 Australia

END

Another Letter no doubt Senator Ludwig is not interested in=

From:
Sent: Tuesday, 19 July 2011 11:21 AM
To: 'Senator.Ludwig@aph.gov.au'
Subject: Re Ritual Slaughter

Dear Senator Ludwig,

The fact is Australia needs proper leadership among the Muslim Community .Not only in meat but many matters. **The fighting between Islamic councils and the very open system of bribes to gain accreditation must be stopped.**

AQIS are fully aware of what goes on but turn a blind eye. Look at Indonesia for example. I don't know anybody else that has spent the last ten years of their lives working exclusively with Australian Muslim Leaders.

We know these people very well. We know strong leadership is required in Australia. I am most concerned about Mr @@@and have expressed these concerns to the Attorney General.

As you know we offered for Dr Ameer Ali former advisor for ten years to John Howard to assist you with Indonesia. We still are yet to receive a reply. I understand your office has been/ and still is very busy however something like that ought to have been at least responded to.

The Australian Federation Of Islamic Societies does not approve animals having their throats cut without being stunned first. If we do not stop this cruel practise now Australia will be turned into a third world country within a few years. While your office may not wish to tackle other Muslim councils Dr Ameer Ali

and Dr Hussain are held in high esteem within the Muslim Community and are willing to assist in this matter.

I say to you without prejudice I believe allowing ritual slaughter is to make sure live exports continue. We need abattoirs in Australia. You require some real assistance that you have not had through MLA. We are happy to provide that assistance. However to be told there is nothing happening in regards to ritual slaughter – then to read an ABC story addressing meetings between South Australia Government and federal government is unacceptable. Would you please make sure we as stake holders are informed prior to these meetings in future. I think its fair to say your office has been less than helpful on all accounts up to date

If only you realised just how much assistance we can be to yourself and office. It is very frustrating . I hope things can improve.

We have a large company in China with interests to open abattoirs in WA NT

It would be good if we could work together on this.

End.....>>>> interesting what the Government is **not** interested in .

ONGOING DIFFICULTIES PERSUEING THE RITUAL SLAUGHTER MEETINGS REVIEWS MATTER.

After discovering we had been ``mislead `` we contacted Mr Tim Lester's office again to find he was on leave.

We were then put through to a head of DAFF who informed us there had been **no formal meetings in regards to ritual slaughter** *however the topic had popped up?*

With respect that isn't what's reported in media and other sources including stake holders .

We were then informed ~~informal meetings ~~were to take place in the future.

Our response was a request to submit our position in writing formally.

Given this is such an important matter we prefer not to reply upon peoples *memory of what was said.*

I am sure they have many others they ``informally meet with`` and would not like whom said *what* to be confused.

The behaviour and conversations we have had with DAFF since then have been extraordinary . There appears to be something like a form of paranoia as soon as you mention ritual slaughtering is not accepted by decent human beings in our strong opinion.

This email copy below which deals with our ongoing inquiries shows clearly unless all state Ministers are clairvoyant that the Federal Minister Mr Ludwig ordered these meetings to be take place as a result of us making these inquiries. We believe it was deliberate behind our back because we informed this Minister we SUPPORTED RSPCA to Stun ALL Animals before slaughter!

We have even been told by a head with this game of cat and mouse he would send information but does not want us to discuss it? Weird to say the least .

Thanks for our conversations today.

As I mentioned, Primary Industry Ministers from all jurisdictions have asked officials to consult with key stakeholders on their views on current arrangements for ritual slaughter in Australia. Following your advice on the establishment of the Australian Federation of Islamic Society (AFIS), I think it would be useful if we should arrangement discussions with your president (Dr Amir Ali) or another appropriate representative.

Can you send me contact details for Dr Ali or another representative of AFIS so we can organise a meeting in the near future

Regards

Executive Manager
Agricultural Productivity Division
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Letter from Minister Ludwigs office here=

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Thank you.

Office of Joe Ludwig

Minister for Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry

End:

So on the 1st of July after Minister Ludwigs office wrote telling us there was no action being taken into ritual slaughter & being

told by phone quote: "I ASSURE YOU THERE IS NOTHING HAPPENING IN REGARDS TO RITUAL SLAUGHTER "- MEETINGS DID TAKE PLACE AUSTRALIA WIDE WITHIN TWO WEEKS? MINISTER PLS EXPLAIN!?

You have offended us. Records show we have gone out of our way to SUPPORT this government even at our own detriment.

Influence of AA over Politian's.

Politian's need to work with a broader range of animal welfare minded organisations.

Questions must be answered now as to **when and how** AA and others became aware Indonesia informed Australia they were aiming to be self sufficient? Had everybody been informed instead of just a selected few through - we suspect through the back doors of parliament both government, industry and farmers with animal welfare organizations could have & should have been working hard since March 2010 together to open more abattoirs.

Instead we have a mess. Farmers hating animal welfare groups and the government in crisis.

While we support both bills it seems a big co-incidence the bills coincide with the time frame that was Given to Minister Stephen Smith by the Minister of Trade Indonesia when he told us they wanted Live Exports stopped by 2014. We could have done so much more!

AMIEU

It is a matter of record also that our organisation worked with federal leaders on live exports well before AA, WSPA & RSPCA National launched the handle with care program.

Our work goes back to the late Mr. Tom Hannan. However we now are in the position that AMIEU refuse to respond to letters or continue work & share communication that has been shared for many years. It has reached the point we have informed them we may have to consider establishing our own Halal Meat Union. That is a shame. We are not wanting to divide Australia and I say to this

inquiry Animals Australia in our opinion while we support their stand on live exports and intensive farming, has created the biggest disaster in the history of this country of disunity by not working united and sharing information only with a few chosen at back door of parliament.

Its a darn shame to see AMIEU turn its back and turn on people involved in the meat industry as well as Animal Welfare in preference of working exclusively with Animals Australia, RSPCA & WSPA. Especially given our fantastic efforts and meetings with the Queensland Government and where we were going working united to open more abattoirs. It warrants a full and proper investigation by some sort of responsible Minister. We are happy to give more information on this matter to the inquiry rather than make this submission too lengthy, but somebody needs to ask AMIEU some serious questions. Grant Courtney has been aware of this for a year and done nothing despite promises to get back to us.

Halal accreditation.

We require urgently a body set up to deal with Halal accreditations. There are serious problems in this country. We have heads of DAFF heading meetings in regards to ritual slaughter and other matters & programmes who don't even know who the Halal Accreditation Authorities are in the States or anything about them. This is just not good enough. Three days ago from today 31.7.2011 we were asked by phone by the head of Daff whom SICHMA or ICCV are. This is a disgrace and very dangerous in our strong opinion. Please remember this is the person the Minister instructed to meet with these Halal Accreditors to discuss ritual slaughter. Well, may this government say they do not want our assistance but they sure require it in our opinion.

PROBLEM WITH HALAL ACCREDITORS IN AUSTRALIA

AFIC AUSTRALIAN FEDERATION OF ISLAMIC COUNCILS DISHONOURABLE BEHAVIOUR IS A REAL CONCERN FOR ALL OF AUSTRALIA.

This body has nominated itself over the years as the peak body representing Muslims in Australia advising Government.

We are making known our real concerns regarding Mr Ikebal Patel and AFIC and especially secretary Mr Ashraf Ali to this inquiry because nobody seems to care not because we wanted to go public with this but because this government in our opinion is asleep at the wheel.

We have got to be more on top of this Halal industry and especially the credibility of Muslims or Islamic Councils.

This organisation AFIC has deteriorated to such a degree it is undemocratic, dysfunctional and at times disruptive to the main stream Australians. We have known and worked with AFIC for nine years. AFIC is no longer operating under Australian laws in our dealings with them.

There has been many periods of concern. On one occasion around three years ago the Minister for Aboriginal affairs in QLD offered funding after this offices efforts to reopen a aboriginal abattoir in Cherrybar QLD. Mr Ikebal Patel then shocked not only the Ministers advisor who had come to formally deliver this good news by say quote:

“Oh good I need to fix the roof of the Mosque at Christmas Island”.

(We will now pause while readers laugh)

However needless to say we didn't get the funding and we were not amused but very concerned. We continued working for the sake of the programme. Over a period of six years just to give this inquiry some idea of the lack of integrity from AFIC Mr Ikebal Patel and AFIC did not once honour their agreement for half office expenditures other than two payments – one for \$1000 & another \$400.00,- . We only mention this because it goes to **integrity** . AFIC were well aware this office was working seven days long hours under our agreement.

The next most memorable Stunt put on by Mr Patel and AFIC (there have been many) was listening to the news recently hearing OUR Organisation was demanding two million dollars from Mr Ludwigs office . HKM Halal Kind Meats did not ask The Government for two million dollars. At no time was this discussed between Mr Patel and ourselves. Of course it has done damage to our Halal Kind Meats program with public calling to abuse us for being involved in ritual slaughter.

Furthermore it now appears that despite AFIC and Mr Patel being consistent in agreement with pre stunning which was the bone our agreement we are now aware in fact AFIC have accredited abattoirs to only perform ritual slaughter. In the past AFIC and Mr Patel has enjoyed the privilege of lodging joint submissions to past Senate enquiries into animal welfare with HKM & RSPCA QLD.

Yet, now he is on front pages on newspapers opposing RSPCA on ritual slaughter. AFIC and Mr Patel has also of course demanded Sharia law- then changed his mind- said sorry- only to then demand Sharia law again. Our point being we need the government to STOP these types of people having anything to do with Halal meat accreditations and preferable schools (however that is outside this inquiry) but it needs looking at.

<http://www.afic.com.au/?p=2339>

<http://www.heraldsun.com.au/news/train-more-halal-slaughterers-muslim-group/story-e6frf7jo-1226078114609>

<http://www.theaustralian.com.au/business/legal-affairs/it-was-a-mistake-to-mention-sharia-law-admits-australian-islamic-leader/story-e6frg97x-1226076664279>

There are enormous problems regarding The Australian Federation Of Islamic council AFIC . Nobody cares. Nobody has a clue what to do about them. There is no watch dog no complaints unit and everybody backs away as soon as you say you have a complaint against a Muslim or a Islamic Council. Its not good enough. This is an area in which we require to be diligent .

Here is part of the HKM Halal Kind Meat Programme which was drafted at HKM head office and AFIC signed. Agreements even in writing mean NOTHING to AFIC and Mr Patel. It would be clear that ritual slaughter was NOT agreed to . It is clear also by the links to media reports posted above AFIC have acted outside their signed agreement=

Halal Global Australian Kind Meats ("HKM")

And

Australian Federation of Islamic Council ("AFIC")

Whereas:

HKM is pursuing the following objectives: -

- "To promote the opening of more abattoirs in Australia for the production of Halal meat for exports to prevent unnecessary cruelty to animals while being Transported overseas for slaughtering".
- To support HKM in its program to foster joint ventures between overseas and Australian partners in operating abattoirs within Australia.
- To promote and encourage the protection of all animals, be they domestic, farm, feral or native.
- To bring about necessary changes to the State and Federal Animal Welfare Acts so that animal welfare matters can be dealt with more diligently by the Appropriate law enforcement agencies and to enable other animal welfare Organizations to deal with unlawful codes of practice and animal welfare Complaints.

AFIC

- Both parties recognize the need for export of meat and meat products and the Opportunity which flows as a consequence to both employment and industry and wishes to insure the humane slaughter of animals.

The Parties have agreed to the following general principles

- HKM has researched and performed significant preparatory work in relation to the established Halal abattoirs in Australia. HKM has investigated and wishes to trial a new more humane slaughter method of "gassing" of large beasts as opposed to "stunning" of the animal. This is of considerable interest to AFIC as it appears that this manner of stunning is reversible and will not damage the skull and or brain of the animal.
- Both parties will use their best endeavour to communicate openly and freely with each other in relation to pursuing the objectives outlined.
- Both parties will communicate and deal with each other through their head offices and do not recognize or encourage unauthorized persons representing either party.
- Any presumption of a partnership between the parties is hereby negated.

end

The point of posting this into the inquiry is obvious .While it may be our problem right now it will be this Governments problem and Australia's problem and especially our Australian Animals problem if we do not wake up and get some leadership and communication between State and federal departments into the Halal meat trade. It would be clear these AFIC people have no integrity and that's a worry for all.

Halal meat has a bright future in Australia- We can export chilled pre stunned boxed meat and introduce work and training into our immigration system.

Its not all doom and gloom, its a brand new start but this government must have the courage to stand up to Elders, Landmark and others who lobby yards for self interests.

We thank the Senate for their time.

A Zimnik.

Secretary

AMAWA

Dr Hussain , Dr Ameer Ali, W Lewthwaite, R Cochrane