

# MEETING REPORT

## African Swine Fever Stakeholder Teleconference

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<b>Committee:</b>	African Swine Fever Stakeholder Teleconference
<b>Meeting Date:</b>	Friday 25 October 2019

Item #	Item Name	Discussion summary	Major outcomes, recommendations, actions
1	<b>Welcome (APL CEO)</b>	Ms Margo Andrae, APL CEO, opened the teleconference at 10:00am. Welcome to stakeholders calling in.	
2	<b>Industry Update - APL</b>	<p>Australia is currently ASF free. Preparedness activities are underway.</p> <p>Ms Andrae provided an overview on focused ASF activities over the past week.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prominent media coverage.</li> <li>Continued government focus on biosecurity at airports.</li> <li>APL attendance at Senate Estimates on Tuesday. Opportunity to continue to raise the importance of biosecurity, and control of Australia's feral pigs.</li> <li>NSW Farmers African Swine Fever Forum on Tuesday, focused on ASF.</li> <li>Industry supporting a funded nationally coordinated approach to reduce feral pig numbers in Australia. The best time for management of feral pigs is prior to any outbreak of ASF. Noted that management of feral pigs after any outbreak will add cost and logistical issues to any management plan, notably carcass disposal processes.</li> </ul>	Ms Andrae encourages all stakeholders to participate in the state ASF workshops which have commenced. Information on all state meetings is available from Dr Lechelle van Breda. Both Ms Andrae and Dr van Breda are available to receive: any questions; "gaps" identified to be addressed; or requests for circulation of information.
3	<b>Government Update</b>	<p>Ms Andrae introduced Dr Kevin de Witte (CVO for Tasmania), as the Federal Government, and CVO Network spokesperson.</p> <p>Dr de Witte is the Chair of the Animal Health Committee who met in early October and which culminated in the establishment of a taskforce approach to management of a possible ASF incursion.</p> <p>Dr de Witte addressed the governments' current activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Both industry and pig owner engagement to inform on biosecurity risk and measures to manage risk.</li> <li>Actively sharing materials across all stakeholder groups.</li> </ul>	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use of social media to alert target groups of the importance of biosecurity.</li> <li>• Preparedness activities with AUSVET Network. AUSVETPLAN for ASF will be distributed through Vet network at meeting on 22 November.</li> <li>• Recognised need for ongoing industry engagement with commercial piggeries. This is being coordinated by the NSW CVO Dr Sarah Britton.</li> <li>• Dr Britton is also looking at pig movements across borders.</li> <li>• In early December the Chief Veterinary Officers will be meeting to agree on the parameters of the response through EADRA. Including the shared funding for any response.</li> </ul> <p>Ms Andrae expressed industry appreciation for the national coordinated approach being developed prior to an ASF incursion occurring.</p>	
4	<b>Marketing Update</b>	<p>Ms Andrae introduced the APL Marketing Development Manager, Mr Peter Haydon to update on consumer-focused activities. APL has been communicating with all retailers and supply chains to keep them informed. The EADRA process to be followed if an incursion arises has been included in these communications. Consumer awareness approach informed by previous awareness campaigns after the H1N1 outbreak. Similar campaign is supported by APL should an outbreak occur, proposed to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A request to the CVOs to manage public advertisements. These can be used within the marketing spaces that APL has purchased for their standard marketing.</li> <li>• A concentrated awareness campaign to promote: the message that ASF is an animal welfare issue; reassurance for customers that consumption of pork is not a matter for concern; and, that consumers need not change their purchasing behavior.</li> <li>• After an initial block of advertising, the message will be “lightened”.</li> <li>• On return to an industry ASF free status, marketing will promote that the industry is disease free and that the best means to help Australia’s farmers is to buy one more pork.</li> </ul> <p>Dr de Witte supports the industry approach for messaging to consumers. He noted that there are Government communication networks that APL can connect with for a shared approach to information dissemination.</p>	
4	<b>Stakeholder Questions</b>	<p><b>Swill Feeding and Feed Waste Disposal Messaging</b>  Suggestion: For the distribution of information on the dangers of swill feeding and on feed waste disposal, throughout the feed services/restaurant industry as well as for small retailers, via the inclusion of messaging with supplied pork</p>	<p>Mr Haydon noted that APL is currently communicating with/approaching wholesalers who supply to these groups. APL will investigate the option of supplying materials via the</p>

		<p>products. Ms Andrae noted that there is a peri-urban group communicating these messages to the mentioned sectors and they have materials produced in several languages.</p> <p><b>Risk of ASF Contamination via Open Water Source Supplies from Feral Pig Populations</b></p> <p>Questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If ASF is detected in the wild pig herd, what is the risk for ASF contamination via water supplies. Notably, this is an issue for piggeries who utilise open water sources to supply their piggeries.</li> <li>• If there is a risk of contamination via open water sources, what treatments are necessary to ensure that water flowing into piggeries is safe for the animals.</li> </ul> <p>Ms Andrae referred these questions to the Federal Government.</p>	<p>wholesalers for dissemination with their supplied pork. Dr de Witte will follow up on the questions querying ASF contamination via open water sources and if this can occur, the water treatments required to maintain a safe water supply for piggeries.</p>
5	<b>Next Call</b>	<p>The next teleconference will be held on Friday 1 November at 10am. Details will be circulated by APL.</p>	<p>Ms Andrae invited feedback from stakeholders on the value of the ongoing teleconferences and the preferred frequency for updates. All Stakeholders welcome to send APL any questions that they may have, or to share their concerns.</p>