



30th April 2013

Animal Welfare Standards Public Consultation
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**COMMENTS ON DRAFT CATTLE AND SHEEP
ANIMAL WELFARE STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES**

The LRTAWA was closely involved with the development of the Land Transport Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines. The Association's principal interest was to ensure that animal welfare would genuinely be enhanced by placing accountability on individuals and groups along the supply chain that were in the best position to influence the outcomes.

It is with this objective in mind that the attached comments are provided. One of the stated objectives of revising and harmonising the standards and guidelines is to provide the basis for developing and implementing consistent legislation and enforcement across Australia. To this end we believe that as far as possible the whole suite of animal welfare standards and regulation should mirror one another in their terminology and prescriptions. This will reduce confusion along the supply chain, inconsistencies and possible legal challenges.

Importantly the onus on one section of the supply chain should not be seen to be greater than others. **Attachment 1** highlights areas of difference between the Land Transport standards and the Sheep and Cattle standards which in most cases could be overcome reasonably easily by language changes.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Please do not hesitate to contact us if further clarification is required.

Yours faithfully

Stephen Marley
President



ATTACHMENT 1

COMPARISON OF LAND TRANSPORT ANIMAL WELFARE STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES TO SHEEP AND CATTLE ANIMAL WELFARE STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES

Responsibility and Planning		
Land Transport	Cattle	Sheep
<p>Objectives People responsible for the care and management of the livestock at all stages of the livestock transport process are identified, are aware of and are accountable for their responsibilities.</p> <p>Adequate planning is carried out and contingency measures are in place to minimise risks to livestock welfare.</p>	<p>Objectives A person knows their responsibilities for caring for cattle welfare and is able to perform the required tasks to minimise the risks to the welfare of the cattle</p>	<p>Objectives A person knows their responsibilities for caring for sheep welfare and is able to perform the required tasks to minimise the risks to the welfare of the sheep.</p>