

Feedback on the proposed new format of the standards

Please include responses to these questions in your submission:

Is the proposed version clear and concise?

Yes, the proposed version is mostly clear and concise. However, in some instances, terms such as 'regularly' (1A.1), 'suitable' (1A.3) and 'sufficient' (2A.2c (i)) are used which is open to interpretation. The use of these terms should be accompanied by either defined values, reference to sections of the document that elaborate further, or reference to external documents that have defined values. One example is the use of the word 'sufficient drainage' under 2A.2c (i). What is 'sufficient'? If 'sufficient' relates to 2A.2d (i) and (ii), then this should be referred to in 2A.2c (i) for clarity. If 'sufficient' does not relate to 2A.2d (i) and (ii), then it is not adequate to have 'sufficient drainage' as a standalone comment with no guidelines on what constitutes 'sufficient'.

Are any regulatory requirements missing?

Yes. There are no requirements included that address the disposal or storage of livestock who have been euthanised to prevent impact on remaining stock.

Are any regulatory requirements duplicated?

There is some duplication of information but it is necessary for clarity.

Can the proposed new format be improved? Where? How?

The point and/or breakdown of 'Overarching requirements' should be mentioned under 'Scope and General' like done for 'Outcomes', otherwise it is unexpected.

Feedback on the content of ASEL

Please include responses to these questions in your submission:

What are the three most important issues for the committee to consider as part of this review? Why are these issues important? Does information exist to support a change?

Issue 1

Section 3B.7 should include requirements for the storage or disposal of euthanised animals throughout the consignment so as not to impact on remaining stock.

standards within the industry. The development of a comprehensive assessment protocol will allow quality control, help to mitigate risk and provide stakeholder and community confidence. Accurate monitoring of industry practices will enable benchmarking of standards and motivate ongoing improvements in welfare performance.

This project will propose a list of welfare indicators relating to environmental-, resource- and management-based inputs, as well as outputs relating to animal health and behaviour. This list of indicators will be designed to assess sample groups of cattle and sheep at all levels of the supply chain; on farm, feedlot, on ship and at a foreign feedlot, in a practical and efficient manner. The study will trial data collection techniques, sampling strategies and test for inter-observer reliability for a welfare indicators protocol. In addition, we propose to collect information regarding the level of training and experience of stockpersons and survey industry attitudes to animal welfare.