



Your strong and independent
voice for livestock producers

LIVESTOCK SA...

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Minister David Pisoni

Minister for Innovation and skills

Email: officeofministerpisoni@sa.gov.au

Dear Minister,

Discussion Paper: Hi-Tech Sector by Livestock SA

Livestock SA represents sheep, beef cattle and goat producers in South Australia. Livestock SA currently has over 3,500 members across the state

The discussion paper titled 'Hi-Tech Sector' proposed by The Department for Innovation and Skills outlines various industries that have competitive hi-tech advantages whether it be advances within their technology/products or services.

It is disappointing to see that the agricultural industry has not been recognised or acknowledged within the discussion paper. The ever-growing agricultural industry occupies over 53% of South Australian land and contributes more than \$6.6 billion to South Australia alone, making agriculture one of the main contributors to the South Australian economy.

The agricultural industry is at the forefront with new technology advances being developed often. The agricultural industry has immense potential for growth and development in which would increase the profit margins for producers state-wide, ultimately helping increase the South Australian economy.

The agricultural industry is booming with new advance technologies such as virtual fencing, robotic farming machines that can monitor on-farm water, crop and seed levels, and even dispose of weeds within crops.

Although new technologies are developing at exponential rates, they are not being well adopted by farmers. The industry needs more support for new technologies to be implemented on farms, whilst encouraging the continually advancement of the agricultural industry. This is vital to farmers, their production systems, the economy and future generations.

Supporting the agricultural industry means having an understanding and awareness of the future demands and challenges in which the industry will face. If appropriately recognised, the agricultural industry has immense potential to grow and exceed past the previously mentioned high-tech industries.



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There needs to be more recognition to the agricultural industry, particularly as it is one of the main contributors to our economy. With the continual support, technologies will continue to advance in order to meet future demands, challenges and needs. The support will also allow for the implementation of technologies on farm, bringing a new age of farming to our state.

As part of this process, Livestock SA acknowledges the need of technology within the agricultural industry and will offer our on-going support to producers and the industry.

Yours sincerely,

Andrew Curtis

CEO

CC: Min Whetstone