



Your strong and independent
voice for livestock producers

LIVESTOCK SA...

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Mining Regulations Team
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Drafting South Australia's Mining Regulations

Livestock SA strongly endorses the submission made by Grain Producers SA, particularly the policy principles and the recommendations on the draft regulations.

As Livestock SA represents beef cattle, sheep and goat producers across South Australia, it must be emphasised that it is not only with the cropping industry where conflicts between mining and agriculture occur.

In the case of livestock, the producers who express the most concern about the impact of mining exploration and associated activities are from the pastoral region. Pastoralists would like to have more input into exploration plans similar to the consideration that is given to indigenous people. While pastoralists do not own the land they operate on, for much of South Australia's pastoral region, they do invest considerable funds for infrastructure improvements, particularly secure water supplies, and they should be treated like any other landowner. Rehabilitation of pastoral land (or lack thereof) is also a huge issue and there appears to be no desire to enforce the rehabilitation conditions. As custodians of the land, pastoralists are held responsible for its condition, whether they caused the damage or not and this, and the associated costs in time and money from dealing with this need to be acknowledged.

Of particular concern for all livestock producers is the necessity for the livestock sector to maintain good livestock biosecurity practices which minimise the risk of a disease or pest incursion. It is common practice to restrict access by outside vehicles and machinery to reduce the risk of disease, weed or pest incursions and maintain a register of any outsiders that may be driving on to properties to enhance traceability. There is also significant concern surrounding the ability for mining companies to access property owned water infrastructure and natural water courses due to the risk of contamination and introduction of pests and disease. Limiting vehicle access and restricting use of water resources on the property is essential not only for a producer's individual biosecurity compliance and risk management but increasingly for the whole livestock industry to be able to maintain and expand market access both domestically and internationally.

In relation to the draft information sheet "*Biosecurity for exploration and mining operations in South Australia*", Livestock SA believes that mining companies need to maintain strict "come clean, go clean" policies and stick to dedicated tracks within a property to minimise introduction and spread of an unwanted pest, weed or disease. The mining sector and third party contractors need to be

cognisant of on-farm biosecurity and work with the relevant landholders and stakeholders to ensure that biosecurity practices are maintained to minimise both endemic and exotic weed, pest and disease incursion onto livestock properties.

In the introduction to the draft information sheet, there is no acknowledgement of the cost of animal pests and diseases on the livestock sector which is more important from a Livestock SA perspective. While weeds do have an impact to livestock enterprises, there needs to be mention of livestock. We do acknowledge that it is difficult to quantify the myriad of conditions that impact livestock, particularly given the differences between endemic and exotic diseases but a statement is necessary acknowledging the impact that livestock disease incursion pose to the industry.

Because of the increasing importance of livestock biosecurity, Livestock SA now has two Livestock Biosecurity Extension Officers. They would be willing to both assist in improving the draft information sheet, and also working with the mining sector to explain the need for good biosecurity and the appropriate procedures required.

For pastoralists, there is also significant concern surrounding the ability for mining companies to access property owned water infrastructure and natural water courses. Being allowed to remove unlimited water from water points that pastoralists have built and maintained at their own expense is unacceptable. And again, there is the increased risk of contamination and introduction of pests and disease. Both limiting vehicle access and restricting use of water resources are required. Consideration needs to be given to also preparing an information sheet on water and the access issues for exploration and mining operations in South Australia, which while emphasising the constraints and considerations in the pastoral region, covers the whole State.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact me through the Livestock SA office and our CEO, Andrew Curtis. Furthermore, Livestock SA would be pleased to provide further commentary and detail if required.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joe Keynes', written in a cursive style.

Joe Keynes
President