

**MEETING NOTES OF THE NATIONAL STOCK EFFLUENT WORKING GROUP**  
**at**  
**MIA premises, Wellington**

**9.00 am Wednesday 10 September 2008**

<b>Present:</b>	Fiona Knight Frank Brenmuhl William McGimpsey Oliver Suri Ian Cox Kevin Cresswell Tony Friedlander Lew Metcalfe Isy Kennedy	Convenor, Federated Farmers Federated Farmers Ministry of Transport NZ Transport Agency - highways Meat Industry Association Road Transport Forum Fonterra Environment Waikato ( teleconference 10-30 – 11.30)
<b>Guests:</b>	Mike Noon Rochelle Comber	AA AA
<b>Apologies:</b>	Roger Fisher Trish Burborough Philip Anstey Murray Riley	South Waikato DC MAF Stock and Station Agents NZ Transport Agency - funding

ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
1.Introductions and apologies	Welcome to Frank and Lew	
2. Meeting Notes of 26 September 2007	Confirmed.  Most actions had been completed. Members confirmed their commitment to support the Code and progress its implementation.	
3. Matters arising	Kevin reported that meat companies give advance notice the day before stock collection in 95% of situations.	

	<p>Noted that stock truck tanks hold 200 litres on average. If stock are not stood, then the tanks are normally full within 20 minutes/ 25 km from departure.</p> <p>Tony advised reports from Waikato that stock are being requested and transported on the same day – “hotkills”. This is at the request of farmers. Federated Farmers to undertake some education with members on the undesirability of this practice.</p> <p>Fiona to complete survey of existing disposal sites on costs and methods of disposing of effluent</p>	<p>Fed Farmers to undertake education activities. Kevin to talk to local meatworks Fiona to survey</p>
<p>4. Fridge magnet campaign</p>	<p>The idea came from a farmer following some promotional work Fiona undertook with the Federated Farmers Meat and Wool Producers Council.</p> <p>Agreed the flier was to be focused on farmers.</p> <p>Text to include some words on farmers receiving effluent, recognising that there are some situations where this action is not appropriate – in cases of mixed loads or where tanks have not been washed after previous loads.</p> <p>Agreed to give Fiona feedback within one week so she can complete the flier and circulate around all interested parties issuing magnets.</p>	<p>ALL comments to Fiona by 17 Sept</p>
<p>5. Update from Federated Farmers</p>	<p>Have done already:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Distributed 20,000 magnets via Update magazine</li> <li>• Officers around the country have plaques on standing stock to give to members</li> <li>• Promoted the national network of disposal sites</li> <li>• Included information in Friday Flask newsletter</li> </ul> <p>Future actions to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will be lobbying local authorities to include\ effluent in their district plans</li> <li>• Will lobby Regional transport Committees as well</li> </ul>	
<p>6. Other updates</p>	<p>Meat industry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All magnets sent out to meat processing companies</li> <li>• Meat and Wool NZ have also distributed magnets to their client farmers</li> </ul> <p>Environment Waikato</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Survey of farmers at Mystery Creek <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Truck operators and stock and station agents reported as not giving farmers notice</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Farmer concerns that stock might suffer in standing</li> </ul>	
	<p>Fonterra</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Article in Farmlink May 08</li> <li>• Information on tanker dockets throughout May</li> <li>• Assisted with funding</li> <li>• Sent magnets to dairy farmers in Otago and Southland as areas most in need</li> </ul> <p>Southland</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Noted the decision to prosecute a transport operator under the RMA followed by 2 more infringement notices</li> <li>• Concerns by the road transport industry they are being singled out</li> <li>• Environment Southland decisions August 2007(see previous notes)</li> <li>• New network of 6 disposal sites planned</li> </ul> <p>General feedback Noted that councils could do more to require meatworks and sale yards to have adequate disposal facilities available and used.</p>	
7. Progress on disposal sites	<p>Ian tabled a report and copies of maps showing completed sites, and proposed locations for new sites. This incorporated feedback form the recent meeting of regional council staff on effluent issues. Noted that the principal problems were NIMBYism and territorial authorities not wanting to contribute their share of funds to address the issue as it was low / non-priority.</p> <p>Supported the ECAN system of the regional council managing the funding through use of a formula across local authorities in its region.</p> <p>RESOLVED, and passed unanimously: That the NSEWG write to Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) expressing its concern at the lack of commitment to the principles of the <i>Industry Code of Practice for the Minimisation of Stock Effluent Spillage from Trucks on Roads</i> by many territorial authorities and regional councils, and that this is a major impediment to reducing the level of livestock effluent being spilled on NZ roads. NSEWG calls on LGNZ to publicly commit their constituent councils to move with urgency to meet their obligations as set out in the Code. (Friedlander/Brenmuhl).</p> <p>This will include inviting them to attend the next meeting. If a negative response is</p>	<p>Fiona write NZTA to recommend their consideration of this formula approach</p> <p>Fiona to write to LGNZ accordingly</p>

	<p>received, then next actions to be writing to the appropriate ministers and getting public exposure</p> <p>Agreed Fiona to write concurrently to all regional councils/unitary authorities expressing concern at failure of many councils to meet their obligations under the Code, and urgently requests they address resource consent issues, disposal site availability, and educational campaigns. Resource consent issues include giving appropriate and adequate consents, and managing compliance with consents.</p>	Fiona to write to RCs and UAs
8. Presentation by Fonterra	<p>Fonterra advises it strongly supports the Code in its current state, and actively promotes the use of best practice. Noted that its current agreement with the Food Safety Authority currently restricts some activities. The factual basis for these restrictions imposed by the FSA were queried, and noted that these agreements need further discussion.</p> <p>The benefits of winter grazing for nitrogen nutrients were debated.</p> <p>Further means of educating farmers were noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Statements on invoices</li> <li>• Discussions when arranging for stock collection</li> <li>• Statements on tanker dockets</li> <li>• Publicity on fence posts</li> <li>• Newsletters</li> <li>• A Country Calendar programme on effluent</li> </ul>	
9. Time stock should be stood	<p>Lew advised some concerns at the proposal to stand stock for 12 hours, and noted some factors to be considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Variations in distances and purpose of stock travel</li> <li>• Variable infrastructure on farms</li> <li>• Age/sex of livestock</li> <li>• Weather conditions</li> </ul> <p>Agreed there should be some flexibility but that guidance needed to be kept simple. At present, time to remain as 4 – 6 hours pending results of research being coordinated by Fiona</p>	
10. Spreading effluent on farms	<p>Fonterra advised a proposal to undertake a risk analysis for spreading effluent from stock trucks on to farms for fertiliser. They are currently seeking funding for this, estimated at \$30,000. (add notes from Lew's slides) Noted that many of the latest dairy</p>	Fonterra/ FedFarm to report back to next meeting

	<p>farm conversions in Southland have sophisticated disposal systems which would manage effluent from trucks easily.</p> <p>Proposal supported by Federated Farmers, who will work with Fonterra to report back to next meeting.</p>	
11. Visit by AA	<p>Mike Noon, GM Motoring Affairs, and Rochelle Comber, Senior Policy Analyst, attended to offer their support and assistance in addressing the effluent issue. Of their 17 districts, Northland, Wairarapa and Southland were particularly concerned with effluent issues. They are willing to act as lobbyists, especially with central and local government.</p> <p>Agreed that AA be invited to join the group and contribute their support across the country. Fiona to action membership.</p>	
12. Review of current Code	<p>Agreed to continue to work with the current Code and get it better implemented across the country. To review this in about 6 months time.</p> <p>Agreed that in principle, legislation should support the principle and requirements in the Code.</p> <p>Agreed action plan as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Letters to LGNZ and regional councils</li> <li>2. Establish small group to review legislation issues, will a voluntary code work, do we need a tougher regime</li> <li>3. Fliers for farmers</li> <li>4. Resolve the problems around receiving effluent from trucks on to farms</li> <li>5. Find out more about livestock movements- dairy/beef</li> <li>6. Find out more about urban sewage systems limitations to receive stock effluent</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Fiona</li> <li>2. Tony/William</li> <li>3. Fiona</li> <li>4. Lew/William</li> <li>5. Who?</li> <li>6. Who?</li> </ol>
12. Date of next meeting	By early December. Fiona to email dates	Fiona to email