

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

9.00am Friday 24 April 2009

Present: Fiona Knight Convenor,
 William McGimpsey Federated Farmers
 Mike Noon AA
 Oliver Suri Ministry of Transport
 Ian Cox NZ Transport Agency - highways
 Kevin Cresswell Meat Industry Association
 Lew Metcalfe Fonterra
 Isy Kennedy Environment Waikato
 Tom Cloke NZRTA
 Roger Fisher South Waikato DC (until 12 noon)
 Murray Riley NZ Transport Agency – funding
 Phil Critchley NZ Police

In attendance Kate Litton MAF Biosecurity

Apologies: Tony Friedlander Road Transport Forum
 Rochelle Comber AA
 Trish Burborough MAF
 Frank Brenmuhl Federated Farmers
 Geoff Swainson LGNZ

ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
1. Introductions and apologies	WELCOME TO Senior Sergeant Phil Critchley of NZ Police. Fiona advised NZ Stock and Station Agents will participate, either by telephone (Terry Cairns) or a local will attend in person	
2. Meeting Notes of March 2009	Notes were confirmed.	
3. Matters arising	Crash data – MoT is willing to research crash data for effluent being a contributory cause of road crashes. NSEWG supported this. (Oliver since advised this is now underway).	

	<p>Disposal site at Taupo – Isy advised that a new site is being incorporated into the new Eastern Taupo Arterial design.</p> <p>Wellington Ngauranga site- Ian had advised this was fixed, and this was corroborated by Mike Dennehy of NZRTA. He has circulated his local membership.</p> <p>Maps on website to be updated in light of Ian’s latest advice from NZTA</p> <p>Include more links to other effluent activities on the website eg the EW site</p>	
<p>4. Presentation by Kate Litton, Animal Welfare, MAF Biosecurity on research into optimum time for standing stock.</p>	<p>MAF Biosecurity has been awarded funding for live research into the effects of standing stock, in order to identify the optimum time to stand stock off green feed and still achieve animal welfare requirements. Project will be focused at sheep and beef cattle. Will probably go over 2 years in order to get the most data. Carcass weight an issue. The results will feed into the Code of Animal Welfare. Other Codes under development or review are for commercial slaughter, transport and saleyards.</p> <p>Contract has not yet been let. Kate agreed to involve NSEWG in the refinement of the RFP, and to ask the potential researchers also to liaise with NSEWG and its members.</p> <p>Discussed possible research for dairy cattle, quite different requirements, being handled by Cheryl O’Connor- Lew and Fiona to speak with Cheryl and see if this research project can be extended.</p> <p>Agreed Code should be reviewed when the results of this research are known</p>	<p>Fiona/Lew to discuss dairy matters with Cheryl.</p> <p>Kevin/Fiona to keep in touch with Kate and ensure consultation</p>
<p>5. In-transit disposal sites</p>	<p>Agreed to seek further activity from NZTA on getting in transit sites up and running. For funding, look at using Regional Directors as they sit on Regional Transport Committees. Ian and Murray to follow up and advise what NSEWG assistance might be required.</p> <p>Agreed to make an NSEWG submission to each regional council, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Background of NSEWG • Promoting the regional role for coordinating funding • Seek support for the TAs who have sites in their districts • Praise those already achieved sites • Maps to show national picture • Full support of fed farmers 	<p>Ian/Murray to speak with NZTA Regional Directors.</p> <p>Fiona to make a brief NSEWG submission to all RTCs</p>
<p>6. On-farm receptacle for receiving effluent.</p>	<p>Tom advised the road transport industry would not support any standardisation of fittings for stock holding tanks, other than at centre or left hand side. Problems with grit in the effluent blocking pipes.</p> <p>Will and Lew noted that the dairy problem of receiving effluent on-farm was largely resolved with the new guidelines from Fonterra’s vets allowing effluent to be discharged onto the milking platform, or onto the tanker turning-loop.</p>	

	Looking at '44 gallon' (200 litre) drums which can be emptied later, sucked out or disposed of. A truck and trailer unit can drop 1000 litres of effluent at a time, taking into account both holding tanks and approx 100 litres on the floor of the stock crate.	
7. Education campaign	<p>Noted that meat industry, stock and station agents and RTF had asked members to remind farmers to stand their stock when transport is being arranged.</p> <p>Noted the benefit of including the picture of the fridge magnet on such correspondence.</p> <p>Articles for industry magazines being prepared and issued. Some concerns expressed that dairy sector seeking 12 hours standing while Code requires 4 – 8.</p> <p>Still a problem with "live-weight" especially farm to farm or from sales. Hot-kill not much of an issue any more</p>	Fiona to circulate the magnet PDF
8. Pilot project on farmers standing stock	<p>Tom suggested a pilot project whereby an external/independent person could check whether farmers were actually standing stock before transport, ideally 4 hours before the stock was due to be collected. This would involve checking:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Whether the farmer had seen any of the education material 2. What he/she understood by it 3. How they had implemented it 4. Were they standing stock for the current planned pick-up. <p>Would require trucking companies to provide information on stock pickups.</p> <p>Funding such an activity is required – Tom to prepare the concept outline for review by the NSEWG at next meeting, so it could seek some NZTA funding.</p>	<p>Tom to prepare concept proposal.</p> <p>Fiona and Lew to discuss with Env't Southland whether they could pick up such an activity this year as a pilot.</p>
9. Review of consents	<p>Discussed whether to undertake a review of consents for meat works after all – many regional councils have little scope for changing consents.</p> <p>Isy to review EW consents in about 2 months time, ready for next meeting.</p> <p>Topic also of how meat companies dispose of effluent- one example where they make a soil conditioner using bark chips, which makes a loss, but is still cheaper than other means of disposal.</p>	Isy
10. Report from Environment Southland on action plan for 2009 winter grazing	<p>Received report from Rachael Millar, Principal Planner with Environment Southland. Congratulated ES on bringing all the parties together and achieving so much activity.</p> <p>Request a report for the next meeting on progress, and whether the ES experience can be used as a level for other regional councils to be more pro-active.</p>	Fiona
11. Truck wash and disposal facilities	Noted that not all companies have facilities but use other companies. As a wash takes 2 hours, trucks are not washed out very often and certainly not between loads.	

12. FAQ/ factsheet	Isy will update the FAQ with every-one's responses and recirculate for feedback. Advise Isy of any new questions. Then: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Go on the effluent website • Promote to regional councils • Circulated by all NSEWG members to their constituents 	
13. Legislation relating to stock effluent on roads	Isy noted little feedback received on her draft. Intent is to summarise all existing legislation. Oliver to provide some assistance. Isy will then circulate the revised draft for every-one to provide comment on the draft, within 4 weeks.	Isy/Oliver EVERYONE
14. General business	Items already covered in main agenda items	
Actions Still to do	Trade waste research Greater involvement of regional councils	Isy Fiona/Geoff
15. Date of next meeting	August 2009. Fiona to email dates	Fiona to email