



TASMANIAN FARMERS & GRAZIERS ASSOCIATION

Food Standards Australia New Zealand
Canberra BC ACT 2610

Email: submissions@foodstandards.gov.au

Re: Primary Production & Processing Standard for Minor Meat Species & Wild Game (Proposal P1014)

The Tasmanian Farmers and Graziers Association (TFGA) is the leading representative body for Tasmanian primary producers. TFGA members are responsible for generating approximately 80% of the value created by the Tasmanian agricultural sector.

In 2009/10, the farm gate value of agriculture and fishing was \$1,683 billion – which represented approximately 6% of the gross state product. More than seventeen thousand people are directly employed in farm related activities. Taking into account basic multiplier factors, this meant the farm dependent economy contributed c\$5.4 billion dollars (18%) to gross state product and 1 in 6 jobs.

With our purpose being to promote the sustainable development of Tasmanian primary industries, the TFGA is committed to ensuring that the agriculture sector in Tasmania is profitable and sustainable. We are also committed to promoting the vital contribution the agricultural sector makes to the environmental, social and economic fabric of the Tasmanian community.

Comments to Proposal P1014:

Production and processing numbers of minor (including deer and rabbit) and wild game (including kangaroo, wallaby and mutton birds) meat species are low in Tasmania. Relevant state regulations and Standards deal with human health concerns in these sectors.

Discussions with our state regulators have indicated that the current requirements, whereby there are different standards for game meat and individual minor species, are working satisfactorily. The TFGA is therefore supportive of regulatory option 2: that is, retaining the current situation with no changes to the FSANZ Code or no further regulatory changes.

The approach that is being taken by FSANZ would require extensive further assessment work on the minor and wild game meat species production and processing practices will be extensive.

Our understanding is that the current situation is working well; at least in Tasmania. We are not aware of any particular problems in the other states. Therefore, it is not clear to us what the driver for this significant reform process is.

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We would be more than happy to discuss our submission further with the department.

Yours sincerely



Jan Davis
Chief Executive Officer
21 May 2012

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