



17 March 2014

c/- Lady Barron Post Office
Flinders Island
TAS 7255
Email: info@vale.org.au

Dr Jenny Cupit
Assistant Secretary, Live Animal Export Division
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
GPO Box 858
CANBERRA
ACT 2601

Dear Dr Cupit

Re: No accredited stockperson on High Mortality Voyage 25

Thank you for your response dated 21st February 2014 (MNM2014-01133). VALE has further questions regarding your response.

In your letter you imply that, unless the animal welfare outcome is affected by breaches of ASEL or, in fact, any other law or regulation relevant to live export, you will not take action against an exporter.

Our interpretation of ASEL is that it is prescriptive in nature and defines in some detail the requirements that must be met on each voyage. We note that animal welfare 'outcomes' are not mentioned in ASEL and there is no requirement for exporters to measure or report welfare outcomes beyond counting dead animals.

Would you be able to advise us:

- (1) at what time and by what process has DAFF or the Australian government made a decision that ASEL v2.3 was not a prescriptive standard?
- (2) what animal welfare 'outcome' would be sufficiently dire for DAFF to take action against an exporter?
- (3) how will your department now determine animal welfare outcomes given that there is no independent monitoring or auditing of animal welfare on board ship?

Yours sincerely,

Dr Sue Foster BVSc MVetClinStud FANZCVS (Spokesperson)