

NORTH WEST WA BEEF ABATTOIR PRE-FEASIBILITY STUDY

6174. Mr M.P. Murray to the Minister for Agriculture and Food

In relation to the Northwest Western Australian Beef Abattoir Pre-feasibility Study commissioned by the Western Australian Department of Food and Agriculture (the Department), I ask:

- (a) since the pre-feasibility report completed the planned first stage of the study, when will the next stage, which aims to build on the key findings by further investigating how the industry will need to change to support a viable northern abattoir, begin; and
 - (i) will the Minister table the report, and if so when;
 - (ii) if not, why not?
- (b) what was the final cost to complete this study; and
 - (i) how much funding was contributed to this study by the Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation (RIRDC);
 - (ii) how much funding was contributed to this study by the State Government;
 - (iii) how much funding was contributed to this study by the Western Australian Beef Council;
- (c) were there any other stakeholders who contributed funds for this study; and
 - (i) if so, who were they; and
 - (ii) how much did they contribute;
- (d) the Western Australian Beef Council invited industry stakeholders to comment on this report before 22 November last year, were copies of any submissions received provided to the Department of Food and Agriculture; and
 - (i) if so, how many submissions were received?

Mr D.T. REDMAN replied:

- (a) Stage 2 of the North West Western Australian Beef Abattoir Pre-feasibility Study was commenced in June 2011.
 - (i) Stage 2 of the report will include information on commercial-in-confidence discussions with processors around Australia, therefore I may not be able to table the whole document. I will table the overall findings following completion of the report.
 - (ii) Not applicable
- (b) The final cost of this study is subject to the presentation of invoices from the consultants. However, I can advise that Stage 1 cost \$125 851 (excluding GST), and that Stage 2 is estimated to cost \$106 900 (excluding GST) of which \$21 380 (inclusive of GST) has been paid to the consultants Hyder Consulting Pty Ltd at the commencement of Stage 2.
 - (i) RIRDC has contributed \$100 000 (including GST) to the cost of this study.
 - (ii) To date the State Government, through the Department of Agriculture and Food, has contributed \$47 231 (excluding GST) to the study, and will pay the remainder of Stage 2 cost estimated to be a further \$85 520 (excluding GST).
 - (iii) The WA Beef Council has not contributed to the cost of this study.
- (c) There were no other stakeholders who contributed funds for this study.
 - (i)–(ii) Not applicable
- (d) The WA Beef Council did seek industry comments on Stage 1 and the submissions were provided to the Department of Agriculture and Food.
 - (i) Two submissions were received.