

Level 7, 390 St Kilda Road, Melbourne Vic 3004, Australia Telephone: +61 (03) 9867 8033 Fax: +61 (03) 9866 8356

Fax: +61 (03) 9866 8356 Email: hra@harness.org.au

3 February 2010

Ms Jill Millan Animal Biosecurity Biosecurity Australia GPO Box 858 CANBERRA ACT 2601

Via email: Jill.Millan@biosecurity.gov.au

Dear Jill,

RE: Draft Import Risk Analysis Report for Horses from Approved Countries

Harness Racing Australia (HRA) is pleased to have been invited to provide comment to Biosecuriy Australia on the above draft report. HRA has consulted with all Members, the Australian Standardbred Breeders Association and the Equine Breeding, Animal Welfare and Registration Committee in formulating this response.

The events of August 2007 proved that horses are high risk quarantine material. HRA both acknowledges and fully supports the rigorous border protection and risk management measures detailed in the report, as a key plank in Australia's quarantine program.

Vigilance to ensure that the recommendations of not only this report, but all steps in the horse import quarantine chain are not met with reduced standards or complacency in the future will also be crucial to success in protecting the Australian horse industry and community.

While not specifically covered by the report, HRA also supports the Callinan Inquiry view that the Australian government continue to provide, control and operate post arrival quarantine stations for imported horses.

HRA remain available to meet and discuss our position on quarantine and biosecurity at anytime. I can be contacted on 03 9867 8033.

Yours sincerely

Andrew Kelly Chief Executive