

National Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza H5N2 Eradication Program

PART 1: PRELIMINARIES

1. The purpose of this Schedule is to outline the delivery of agreed activities for the National Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza H5N2 Eradication Program in 2020-21 and to facilitate the Commonwealth's cost-shared contributions to the Victorian Government, the combatant state for this eradication program.
2. The National Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza H5N2 Eradication Program is being conducted under the Emergency Animal Disease Response Agreement (EADRA) as agreed by the National Management Group (NMG) in August 2020.
3. The *Emergency Animal Disease Response Plan for an outbreak of Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza (H5N2) v1.0* was approved by the NMG in accordance with the EADRA on 14 August 2020.
4. Financial commitments are approved by the NMG subject to budget considerations. The final 2020-21 budget was agreed on 15 December 2020.
5. If required, this Schedule will be reviewed in conjunction with reviews of the National Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza H5N2 Eradication Program in accordance with the provisions of the EADRA.

PART 2: FORMALITIES

6. The Parties to this Schedule are the Commonwealth of Australia and Victoria.
7. This Schedule will commence as soon as it is agreed between the Commonwealth and Victorian ministers with portfolio responsibility for agriculture and will expire on 31 December 2021, or upon on completion or termination of the National Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza H5N2 Eradication Program as determined by the NMG, including endorsement of the final report and processing of final payments against milestones, unless terminated earlier or extended as agreed in writing by the Parties.

PART 3: PROJECT ELEMENTS, MILESTONES AND PAYMENT SUMMARY

8. The purpose of the National Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza H5N2 Eradication Program is to eradicate the H5N2 viral infection in poultry and eggs in accordance with the AUSVETPLAN strategies and procedures. This will be achieved by:
 - (a) implementation of an eradication response;
 - (b) maintenance of strict quarantine and movement controls to reduce the spread of infection;

- (c) tracing (of poultry, poultry product including bird wastes, people, vehicles, equipment, feed and other risk items) from the infected premises;
- (d) surveillance, including of any backyard poultry flocks, within the restricted and control areas to examine potential spread;
- (e) cleansing and decontamination, followed by a period of destocking to ensure no residual avian influenza;
- (f) post-response surveillance to support the proof-of-freedom claim.

9. To qualify for the associated payment Victoria must meet the following milestones:

Table 1: Milestones

Milestones	Due date	Payment
2020-21		
NMG endorsement of proof of freedom from infection <i>or</i> confirmation that Australia has returned to its pre-outbreak status.	June 2021	Up to \$825,000
Delivery of the response program's final audit report.		
Confirmation of final costs.		

PART 4: REPORTING ARRANGEMENTS

- 10. Victoria will report against the agreed milestones as outlined in Table 1.
- 11. Circumstances may give rise to additional reporting being sought in accordance with the EADRA.

PART 5: FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

- 12. The Commonwealth's agreed financial contribution for the National Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza H5N2 Eradication Program is outlined in Table 2 and payable in accordance with the milestones set out in Table 1. All payments are exclusive of GST.
- 13. Where an Industry Party is not able to meet its cost sharing obligations either directly, or from funds held on its behalf, the Commonwealth will initially meet that Industry Party's Cost Sharing obligations as set out in section 11.4(b) and Schedule 7 of the EADRA. Each Industry Party will subsequently meet its cost sharing obligations to the Commonwealth, arising as a consequence of the Commonwealth meeting Industry Party obligations pursuant to clause 11.4(b) and Schedule 7 of the EADRA.

Table 2: Estimated financial contributions

	2020-21 (\$)
Australian Government	275,000
Australian Chicken Meat Federation	416,030
Australian Eggs Ltd	133,970
Maximum Australian Government Liability to Victoria	825,000

PART 6: SIGN OFF

The Parties have confirmed their commitment to this Schedule as follows:

*Signed for and on behalf of the Commonwealth of
Australia by*



Signature

Date 23. 3. 21

**The Honourable David Littleproud MP
Minister for Agriculture, Drought and Emergency Management**

Signed for and on behalf of the State of Victoria by



Signature

13 May 2021
Date

**The Honourable Mary-Anne Thomas MP
Minister for Agriculture**