



**Hon Alannah MacTiernan MLC**  
**Minister for Regional Development; Agriculture and Food;**  
**Hydrogen Industry**

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Our ref: 64-22288/17  
Your ref: A915391, Petition No. 004

Hon Peter Foster MLC  
Chair  
Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs  
4 Harvest Terrace  
WEST PERTH WA 6005  
env@parliament.wa.gov.au

Dear Mr Foster 

**PETITION NO. 004 – BIOSECURITY LEVY IMPOSED ON RESIDENTS OF BRIDGETOWN-GREENBUSHES**

Thank you for your letter dated 16 September 2021 regarding the above petition.

The review of the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007* (the Act) will be commencing over the coming months, and I expect this to be completed within 12 months.

Stakeholder consultation will be an important part of the review, including with Recognised Biosecurity Groups (RBGs) and the general public. The parameters of the consultation process will be determined by an independent review panel with membership currently being finalised.

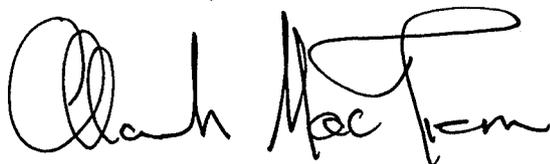
The Declared Pest Rate (DPR) provisions of the Act have been identified as an area to be examined through the review, as are the provisions relating to RBGs. I appreciate that the DPR and RBGs are of great interest to many stakeholders, and this will be brought to the review panel's attention. The *Strengthening Community Action to Manage Declared Pests* project that I referred to in my letter dated 2 August 2021 will also provide additional opportunities for RBGs and the community to have their say on this important matter.

In addition to the stakeholder consultation through the review and the project, every year in accordance with the Biosecurity and Management (Declared Pest Account) Regulations 2014, I, as Minister for Agriculture and Food, undertake consultation on the DPR to be considered prior to the rates being determined and gazetted.

This is an annual process to gauge landholder perception on the DPR and RBG operations within their region. The 2021/22 DPR consultation for the Blackwood Biosecurity Inc resulted in a total of four responses, which is 0.085% of the landholders in the RBGs area. Of the four responses, two were positive, one was negative and one was neutral. The DPR Consultation outcome for the 2021 Declared Pest Rate was published on the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development website and can be found at <https://www.agric.wa.gov.au/bam/declared-pest-rate-consultation>.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide you with further information on the petition.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alannah Mactiernan', written in a cursive style.

**HON ALANNAH MACTIERNAN MLC  
MINISTER FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT; AGRICULTURE AND FOOD;  
HYDROGEN INDUSTRY**

**04 OCT 2021**