

Egg Industry Research and Development Council Regulations (Repeal) 1995 No. 104

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

STATUTORY RULES 1995 No. 104

Issued by the Authority of the Minister for Primary Industries and Energy

Primary Industries and Energy Research and Development Act 1989

Egg Industry Research and Development Council Regulations (Repeal)

Section 149 of the *Primary Industries and Energy Research and Development Act 1989* (the Act) provides for the Governor-General to make regulations, not inconsistent with the Act prescribing matters required or permitted by the Act to be prescribed, or necessary to be prescribed for carrying out or giving effect to the Act. .

The Egg Industry Research and Development Council was established by Regulations under the Act to conduct research and development activities on behalf of the egg industry. The Council operated autonomously, having its own Board, and separate reporting and accountability requirements in accordance with the Act.

The Task Force of the Budget Review of Rural Research and Development questioned whether the budgets of the Research and Development Councils are sufficient to implement optimal research management and administrative arrangements.

The Task Force recommended that "DPIE and, as appropriate, the Minister initiate discussions with the relevant industries with a view to exploring alternative options to the current Council arrangements, while maintaining the current level of industry involvement and responsibility".

Consequently, the Egg Industry Research and Development Council has been terminated and the research and development functions of the industry are now established under the Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation.

The Australian Egg Industry Association, the acknowledged representative industry organisation for the egg industry, wrote to the Minister for Primary Industries and Energy supporting the change in the research and development administrative arrangements. The Australian Egg Industry Association has negotiated with the Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation for the establishment of an egg industry advisory committee under the Corporation having composition, functions and responsibilities similar to the Egg Industry Research and Development Council.

The new arrangements offer a simplified structure under which the research and development program of the research and development Council can be maintained along with existing levels of industry responsibility and involvement for the program.

Significant cost savings will be achieved under the new arrangements effectively maximising industry levy funds available for research and development activities.

Regulation 1 provides for these regulations to commence on 1 July 1995.

Regulation 2 provides for the repeal of the Statutory Rules 1990 No.61 which establish the Egg Industry Research and Development Council.

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