EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Select Legislative Instrument 2009 No. 49

Subject - Primary Industries (Excise) Levies Act 1999

Primary Industries (Excise) Levies Amendment Regulations 2009 (No. 1)

The Primary Industries (Excise) Levies Act 1999 imposes levies under Schedule 3 in relation to cattle transactions and under Schedule 18 in relation to livestock transactions. Funds corresponding to the amounts of revenue raised under the Schedules are appropriated to Meat & Livestock Australia Ltd (MLA) for marketing and research activities, and Animal Health Australia Ltd (AHA) to ensure that Australia’s national animal health system delivers competitive advantage for Australia’s livestock.

The Regulations amend Schedule 3A and Schedule 18 to the Primary Industries (Excise) Levies Regulations 1999. The amendments exempts the imposition of a levy on cattle, sheep, lambs and goats sold during the week 23-27 February 2009 where the proceeds of the sale were used to aid victims of the 2009 Victorian bushfires and Queensland floods.

The Regulations implement recommendations agreed to by the peak industry bodies that represent the beef cattle, sheep and goat production sectors and the agencies who are recipients of the levy monies. The representative bodies are the Cattle Council of Australia, Sheepmeat Council of Australia, Goat Industry Council of Australia, and the recipient agencies are MLA and AHA.

The Regulations are a legislative instrument for the purposes of the Legislative Instruments Act 2003.

The Regulations commenced on 1 April 2009.