

Ref: AS00-100

1st March 2010

**NEW ZEALAND'S POSITION WITH REGARD TO CWD**

As New Zealand's Director Post-border I confirm that New Zealand's animal health situation with regard to chronic wasting disease (CWD) is as follows:

- New Zealand has never had a case of CWD.
- New Zealand does not permit the importation of deer/elk or their genetic material from North America.
- New Zealand has never allowed the importation of meat and bone meal for feeding to livestock. New Zealand's livestock industry is primarily pastoral-based. Regulations prohibiting feeding ruminant tissues to ruminants came into force on 1 January 2000. The Regulations replaced a voluntary industry ban which had operated since mid 1996.
- New Zealand offers veterinarians financial incentives to submit for laboratory examination brains of deer exhibiting signs of chronic ill-thrift, progressive central nervous system diseases or acute pneumonia. There is an active education program to inform veterinarians and farmers of the clinical signs of CWD.
- The causal agent of CWD is a notifiable organism under the Biosecurity Act 1993.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Thomson', written over a light-colored rectangular background.

Peter Thomson  
Director Post-Border



**BIOSECURITY NEW ZEALAND**

**Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry**  
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