

# Proposed Operational Code – Verification Statement

Closing Date: 20 December 2018  
Contact: Animal Products team  
Email: [animal.products@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:animal.products@mpi.govt.nz)

## Background to consultation

The Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) is seeking feedback on the proposed Verification Statement Operational Code.

Verification is an integral part of ensuring compliance with the Animal Products Act 1999 (APA). Verification is a way of ensuring that operators who process animal material and animal products for export are complying with the requirements of their risk management programmes (RMP). Verification is carried out by competent third party verifiers with knowledge of existing standards and requirements as well as knowledge of the nature the operators' business operations.

The Verification Statement outlines what MPI will apply in regard to the performing of verification under the Animal Products Act 1999 (APA) for domestic market businesses producing animal material and products other than live animals and germplasm. This Verification Statement does not apply to businesses producing animal material or products which are to be exported with an official assurance as these businesses are covered by the Export Verification Requirements Notice 2018. Products produced under a regulated control scheme where that scheme includes verification requirements are not covered by this statement.

The proposed Verification Statement updates the 2005 Verification Statement of Policy and includes requirements relating to dairy.

Proposed changes include:

- All export requirements have been removed
- Dairy has been included in the document
- Ceiling frequencies for a number of sectors have been changed to align with the Food Act 2014 for those sectors that can operate under either Act
- Terminology has been updated and out of date information removed or updated.

## Your views sought

MPI invites you to comment on the proposed statement.

## Consultation documents

- Proposed Operational Code: Verification Statement

## Related documents

- Verification 2005 Statement of Policy
- Amendment to 2005 Verification Statement of Policy

## Making your submission

Email your feedback on the consultation document by 5 pm Thursday 20 December 2018 to [animal.products@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:animal.products@mpi.govt.nz)

While we prefer email, you can post your submission to:

Verification Statement Submission  
Ministry for Primary Industries  
PO Box 2526  
Wellington 6140  
New Zealand

## Submissions are public information

Note, comments you make in a submission are public information. Anyone can ask for copies of all submissions under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA). The OIA says we must make the information available, unless we have a good reason for withholding it. You can find those grounds in sections 6 and 9 of the OIA. Tell us if you think there are grounds to withhold specific information in your feedback. Reasons might include, it's commercially sensitive or it's personal information. However, any decision MPI makes to withhold information can be reviewed by the Ombudsman, who may require the information be released.