Reference: 43773  
Telephone: 6271 6270  
e-mail: helpdesk-obpr@pmc.gov.au

Ms Cindy Briscoe

Deputy Secretary

Department of Agricutlure, Water and the Environment

Dear Ms Briscoe

**Regulation Impact Statement – Second Pass Final Assessment –** *Protecting Australian agricultural production and exports from growing global hitchhiker threats*

Thank you for your letter received on 30 April 2021 submitting a Regulation Impact Statement (RIS) on *Protecting Australian agricultural production and exports from growing global hitchhiker threats*for formal Second Pass Final Assessment. I note the RIS has been formally certified at the Deputy Secretary level consistent with the *Australian Government Guide to Regulatory Impact Analysis*.

I appreciate the Department’s constructive engagement on the RIS.

The Office of Best Practice Regulation’s (OBPR’s) assessment is that the quality of the regulatory impact analysis in the RIS is adequate.

The RIS is sufficient to inform a decision, but there are shortcomings in the analysis and policy development process. In particular, the OBPR considers that the RIS would be strengthened by including a more detailaied explanation of the magnitude of the problem as it stands, and more extensive analysis of the costs and benefits of each option.

The RIS may now be provided to the decision-maker to inform their decision.

We would appreciate you advising us when a final decision has been announced and forwarding a copy of the RIS in a form meeting the Government’s accessibility requirements. The OBPR will publish the RIS, along with your certification and this assessment, on the OBPR’s website <https://ris.pmc.gov.au/>.

If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Jason Lange

Executive Director

11 May 2021