



TASMANIAN DAIRY INDUSTRY AUTHORITY

New Regulations progress...

As advised in Newsletter #1 in January 2024, the TDIA are developing new Regulations under the *Primary Produce Safety Act 2011* (PPSA). The main reason for new Regulations are that the existing *Dairy Industry Act 1994* offers minimal guidance to the TDIA in terms of regulating and enforcing food safety standards as they apply to the dairy industry in Tasmania.

At the outset it was advised that the new PPSA (Dairy) Regulations are not intended to apply increased expectations on our farmers and/or dairy businesses, they are intended to provide the ability for the TDIA to be more efficient and effective in ensuring safe food is produced and supplied to the community.

What's covered under the new Regulations...

An updated copy of the draft *Primary Produce Safety (Dairy) Regulations 2024* can be found on our website at [Tasmanian Dairy Industry Authority | Tasmanian Dairy Industry Authority \(tdia.tas.gov.au\)](https://tdia.tas.gov.au)

Reference Group appointed...

In January we asked for nominations from interested stakeholders to become part of the PPSA (Dairy) Regulations Reference Group. At the close of the nomination period thirteen industry people had expressed interest, with all being invited to join the PPSA (Dairy) Regulations Reference Group (members names and contact details are provided in the table below):

Name	Representing	Email Contact
Paul West (Chair)	TDIA	Paul.West@nre.tas.gov.au
Carolyn Harris (Manager)	TDIA	Carolyn.Harris@nre.tas.gov.au
Iain Field	Leap Farm	farmers@leapfarm.com.au
Rod Wyker	Southern Sky Cheese	rod@southernskycheese.com.au
Pia Austin	Fonterra	pia.austin@fonterra.com
Georgia Redpath	Fonterra	georgia.redpath@fonterra.com
Leigh Austin	Forager Foods	leighaustin@foragerfoods.com.au
Andrew Bacon	Mondelez	andrew.bacon@mdlz.com
Deb Morice	DairyTas	deb.morice@dairytas.net.au
James Schulz	Bega	james.schulz@bega.com.au
Matt Ryan	TasFarmers	md.tj.ryan@bigpond.com
Brian Lawrence	TasFarmers	brian.michele@bigpond.com
Ashli Booth	Booth Transport	abooth@boothtransport.com

Arun Gangadharappa	Saputo	arun.gangadharappa@saputo.com
Justin Matthews	Saputo	justin.mathews@saputo.com

Reference Group meeting...

The first meeting of the PPSA (Dairy) Regulations Reference Group was held on 20 March 2024 at Stony Rise Government Offices and was well attended with representatives from across the industry. The Terms of Reference for the Reference Group were accepted, and the draft PPSA (Dairy) Regulations were reviewed in detail, with comments, queries and suggestions for improvements being identified.

From this meeting, TDIA will seek further advice from the Office of Parliamentary Council as to how the matters identified might be able to be addressed in the drafting of the Regulations. It is anticipated an updated draft of the Regulations can then be considered at the next scheduled Reference Group meeting on 9 May 2024.

If you wish to make comment or discuss any aspect of the Regulations development, please feel free to contact TDIA at enquiries@tdia.tas.gov.au or any member of the Reference Group.



The Regulations are intended to provide improved powers which will allow the TDIA to better regulate the industry.

The new Regulations will have minimal impact on the licence fees currently paid to the TDIA under the Dairy Industry Act 1994.

Why are new Regulations necessary...

Q. Why is there a need for change?

A. The *Dairy Industry Act 1994* (DIA) was legislated before the deregulation of the industry, and when TDIA's role focused on buying all market milk in Tasmania and on-selling it to factories. Post deregulation in 2000, some sections of the DIA were repealed, however there has been no attempt to amend the Act to include the regulation of the industry in line with the requirements of Food Safety Regulations, which is now a primary focus of the TDIA.

Q. How will Regulations under the PPSA improve things?

A. At present, the TDIA needs to operate under both the *Food Act 2003* and the DIA, and options for effective regulation are limited. It is difficult to effectively regulate those who can potentially, by their actions, put the whole Tasmanian dairy industry at risk.

Q. Will my licence fees increase?

- A.** The TDIA Board has a policy it will only increase fees when required to directly support TDIA operations, and for those activities which focus on the regulation of the industry.