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30 November 2017

NITP Review Legal Metrology Branch National Measurement Institute PO Box 264 Lindfield NSW 2070

Submitted via on-line Consultation Hub

Dear Sir/Madam

RE: Review of criteria for acceptance of test results for pattern approval

1. About Grain Trade Australia

Grain Trade Australia (GTA) is the focal point for the commercial grains industry within Australia. It facilitates trade and works to provide an efficient, equitable and open trading environment by providing leadership, advocacy and commercial services to the Australian grain value chain.

GTA members are responsible for over 95% of all grain storage and freight movements made each year in Australia. Over 95% of the grain contracts executed in Australia each year refer to GTA grain standards and/or trade rules.

GTA members are drawn from all sectors of the grain value chain from production to domestic end users and exporters. GTA members are involved in grain trading activities, grain storage, grain for human consumption and stock feed milling. A list of all GTA members is attached.

Within this context, on behalf of its members, GTA provides comment on the Consultation Paper entitled "Review of criteria for acceptance of test results for pattern approval".

2. General Comments on the Proposal

The following is noted in the introductory section of the paper "Under the proposed revised policy, NMI will articulate a risk-based approach to the acceptance of test results from all laboratory facilities, including those affiliated with manufacturers, that:

- *Have relevant accreditation to ISO/IEC 17025*:
- Can demonstrate successful completion of an appropriate peer assessment process

This new approach is expected to reduce the regulatory burden on business and support innovation".

GTA fully supports the intent of the approach, through a reduction in regulatory burden (and thus potential reduction in cost to industry) where feasible. However support for that approach is predicated on a number of general principles, including:

- Maintenance of the current Standards in relation to pattern approval.
- The current consistency and formality of the Pattern Approval process should remain.
- The specifics of the current requirements such as technical compliance and enforcement must be included in any new or alternative approach, in order that the regulated metrology controls continue.
- The risk of reducing the transparency, accuracy and overall rigour of metrological controls should not be increased by any change in the current approach.

3. Specific Comments

3.1 Use of External Testing Facilities

GTA fully supports the use of any facility to undertake the required work, including those that may or may not be affiliated with the instrument manufacturer. As stated in the Introduction, this change in policy may lead to reduced costs to industry, including a reduction in duplication of effort. It may also lead to greater innovation and thus introduction of instruments of benefit to industry in a timelier manner.

Acceptance of this change in policy would be on the proviso as outlined in the Consultation Paper that such an approach would require "NMI to clearly articulate and formalise its risk-based approach to the acceptance of test results from external testing facilities". It is essential that all industry sectors are made aware of the approach of the NMI to assess such situations and that the process is not only transparent, but sufficiently rigorous.

3.2 Governance Structure of the Testing Facility

As noted in the consultation Paper, NMI would assess the test results from each category of testing facility based on a range of factors. The Consultation Paper includes reference to the "Governance Structure of the Testing Facility".

It is unclear why this is mentioned (and thus by implication would be a key factor) when the robustness of the procedures and methods etc. used by the testing facility would by far have a higher weighting on the end result than the governance structure that in our view would only be a minor consideration.

3.3 Peer Assessment

It is also unclear how the process of "peer assessment" would work in practice and why this would be a key issue. Each facility type, test type etc. may require a different approach hence clear transparency of the requirements would need to be given by NMI to ensure the stated goals of reduced regulatory burden are to be achieved.

Several factors regarding this peer assessment remain unclear, such as "Who are the peers, what are their qualifications, especially in terms of their interests in the grain industry".

4. Questions for Manufacturers and suppliers of Measuring Instruments

GTA has no comment on the specific questions raised in the Consultation Paper.

The issues paper raises several questions as noted above that should be clarified before GTA could agree to such an approach. We would welcome further discussions on these matters to address our concerns, either separately or via existing consultation mechanisms such as the Grain Quality Measurement Committee.

Thank you for your consideration of this response.

Pat O'Shannassy Chief Executive Officer



Membership List as at 23 November 2017

Organisation Contact Website / Phone

Ordinary Member (Trading)

Level A1 (over 7 Million Tonnes)

Co-operative Bulk Handling Limited Mr Jason Craig cbh.com.au Glencore Agriculture Pty Ltd Mr Philip Hughes glencoreagriculture.com.au

Level A2 (5 - 7 Million Tonnes)

Graincorp Operations Ltd Mr Klaus Pamminger graincorp.com.au

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Level A3 (3 - 5 Million Tonnes)

ADM Trading Australia Pty Ltd Mr Darryl Borlase adm.com
Cargill Australia Limited Ms Penne Kehl cargill.com.au
Bunge Agribusiness Australia Pty Ltd Mr Chris Aucote bunge.com/Agribusiness

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Level A4 (1.5 - 3 Million Tonnes)

Cofco InternationalMr Bruce Licofcoagri.com.auEmerald Grain Pty LimitedMr David Johnsonemeraldgrain.comPlum Grove Pty LtdMr Tony Smithplumgrove.com.au

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Level B1 (1.0 - 1.5 Million Tonnes)

Louis Dreyfus Company Australia Pty Ltd Mr Robert Green louisdreyfus.com.au
Arrow Commodities Pty Ltd Mr Dominic Vanzella arrowcom.com.au

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Level B2 (500,000 - 1 Million Tonnes)

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Q

Level B3 (250,000 - 500,000 Tonnes)

Wilmar Gavilon Pty Ltd

Agfarm Pty Ltd Mr Ron McCalman agfarm.com.au Mr Joe Hallman Agracom Pty Ltd agracom.com.au **AGRIGRAIN** Mr Jeremy Brown agrigrain.com Agrisk Management Pty Ltd Mr Brett Stevenson 02 9499 4199 Mr Josh Lawrence alliedmills.com.au Allied Pinnacle Pty Ltd Chinatex Australia Pty Ltd Mr Jiling Lai 02 9957 2688 **Elders Grain** Mr Lachlan Allen elders.com.au K M & W M Kelly & Sons Mr Matt Kelly kellygrains.com.au Lempriere Grain Pty Ltd Mr Jonathan Holdsworth lemprieregrain.com.au **Pharos Trading Pty Ltd** Mr Khaldoun Badawy 0400 464 863 Quadra Commodities Pty Ltd Mr Robin Cassar quadra.com Robinson Grain Trading Co Pty Ltd Mr Gary Robinson robinsongrain.com.au Special One Grain Accumulator Ms Jaimee Carrigan specialonegrain.com.au **United World Enterprises Pty Ltd** Mr Jimmy Liu uwetypical.com

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Mr Matt Albion

Ordinary Member (Trading) (contd)

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A W Vater and Co Mr Kim Vater vater.com.au

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AGT Foods Australia Mr Peter Wilson agtfoods.com/australia
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Australian Grain Growers Co-operative Limited Mr Bruce McDonald aggcoop.com.au
Australian Grain Storage Mr Matt Bailey sunrice.com.au

Australian Growers Direct Pty Ltd Mr Tom Lucas ausgrowersdirect.com.au
Australian Mungbean Company Pty Ltd Mr Damien White australianmungbean.com.au

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Origin Grain Pty Ltd Mr Peter Brick 03 5720 8500 PB Seeds Pty Ltd Mr Peter Blair pbseeds.com.au PeaCo Mr Shane Wall 03 5497 1766 Pearson's Grain Pty Ltd Mr Darren Pearson pearsonsgroup.com.au Peters Commodities Pty Ltd Mr Michael Oxley petcom.com.au Phoenix Global Australia Pty Ltd Mr Jogesh Virk phoenixcommodities.com.au Mr John Orr Premium Grain Handlers P/L pgh.com.au 02 6977 1733 Preston Grain Mr Andrew Kell Pulse Association of the South East (PASE) Inc Ms Leanne Burr 08 9071 3655 **Quattro Ports** Mr Dene Ladmore quattroports.com.au 02 6746 1911 Quirindi Grain & Produce Mr John Webster Reid Stockfeeds Pty Ltd Mr Ian Reid reidstockfeeds.com.au Rhodium Resources Australia Pty Ltd rhodiumresources.com Mr Mark Fitzgerald Rivalea (Australia) Pty Ltd - Animal Nutrition Mr Andrew Philpotts rivalea.com.au Riverina Oils & BioEnergy Pty Ltd Mr Lachlan Herbert riverinaoils.com 02 6988 8221 Mr Brian Newman **Roty Grain Store** Mr Tim Ruddenklau Ruddenklau Grain Pty Ltd 08 8842 1314 Mr Michael Wood Rural Logic (Aust) Pty Ltd rurallogic.com.au SANWA Pty Ltd Mr Charles Emerson sanwa.com.au Seedhouse Tasmania Mr Matthew Crane seedhouse.com.au Shannon Bros Bulk Haulage Mr Clayton Shannon 03 5390 2264 Silo Bag Grain (NSW QLD) Pty Ltd Ms Lesley Kilby 02 6847 1788 Societa Cofica Pty Ltd Mr Dia Ram Sharma societacofica.com.au 02 69 552 779 Southern Cotton Trading Pty Ltd Mr Chris Veness Southern Cross Agricultural Exports P/L Ms Alicia Dunbar southerncrossag.com.au Mr Campbell Brumby Southern Grain Storage Pty Ltd 03 5267 2351 Southern Stockfeeds (Operations) Pty Ltd Mr David Jemmet 03 5437 8295 Spagricon Australia Pty Limited Mr Jiger Kotecha spagricon.com.au Standard Commodities Australia Pty Ltd Ms Elizabeth Bozinoska stancom.com.au Sumitomo Australia Pty Ltd Mr Akira Yabuuchi sumitomocorp.com.au **Summer Hill Grains** Mr Barney Hughes 0428 694 363 SunPork Farms Feed Mills Mr Bjorn Ludvigsen 08 8532 4434 Tasmanian Agricultural Producers Pty Ltd Mr David Skipper tasagproducers.com.au TSS Grain Mr Trevor Macleod tasstockfeed.com.au Thallon Grains Pty Ltd Mr Andrew Earle 02 6756 5004 **Twynam Pastoral Company** Ms Lesley Heidtman twynam.com Ulusoy Asia Pacific Mr Mark Madjarevic ulusoyflour.com Mr Ervin Leong **Unigrain Pty Ltd** unigrain.com.au Unique Grain Management Pty Ltd Mr Mark Thiele uniquegrain.com.au **Universal Commodity Management** Mr Tim Dean commoditymanagement.com.au W B Hunter Pty Ltd Mr Stewart Coombes 03 5821 5744 **Watershed Commodities** Mr Jack Vivers 0427 715 543 Ward McKenzie Pty Ltd Mr Geoff Hammon mckenziesfoods.com.au

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Transport Operator

WHG Oceania Pty Ltd

Whyalla Beef Pty Ltd

Wilken Grain

Gehrke Grains and Transport Pty Ltd Mr Julian Gehrke 07 5465 6695 Hamilton Contracting (NSW) Pty Ltd Ms Jodie Hamilton hamiltoncontracting.com.au

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Broker

Large

Medium

Fox Commodities Mr Paul Cochrane foxcommodities.com.au Grain Brokers Australia Mr Jeff Winspear grainbrokers.com.au Horizon Grain Brokers Pty Ltd Mr Ash Munro horizongb.com.au Igrain.com.au Pty Ltd Mr Tom Roberts igrain.com.au INTL FCStone Pty Ltd Mr Brett Cooper intlfcstone.com McDonald Pelz Australia Mr Peter Geary mcdonaldpelz.com **Perkins Commodity Brokers** Mr Craig Perkins 03 9645 6846 Teague Australia Pty Ltd Mr Tim Teague teague.com.au Mr Pat Cogswell **Southern Aurora Markets** samarkets.com.au

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Quest Commodities Pty Ltd Ms Jayne Barker Wimmera Mallee Grain Services Mr Rodney Edgerton Mr Hamish Steele-Park Woodside Commodities Pty Ltd

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Corporate

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Mr Scot Paterson

SGS Australia Pty Ltd

Corporate (cont.)

Small

Advance Trading Australasia Mr Andrew Woodhouse advance-trading.com.au Ag Scientia Pty Ltd AvantAgri Australia Pty Ltd Clear Grain Exchange CloudBreak Grain Marketing Pty Ltd Basis Commodities Pty Ltd

Delta Agribusiness Pty Ltd **EP Integrated Commodities Pty Ltd** Farmanco Marketing Pty Ltd FarMarCo Australia Pty Ltd

Flexi Grain

Goldstar Commodities

Finesse Solutions Pty Limited

Grainx

HarvestCheck Pty Ltd

Hay Plains Grain Storage Pty Ltd **IKON Commodities Pty Ltd Lachstock Consulting** MarketAg Pty Ltd

McMullen Consulting Pty Ltd

Mercari Pty Ltd Mirfak P/L

Murray Goulburn Trading Pty Ltd NZX Australia (ACF, PFA) **OMIC Australia Pty Ltd**

Perten Instruments Australia Pty Ltd Pinnacle Commodities Ptv Ltd Planfarm Marketing Pty Ltd **Primal Foods Group** Rise Agribusiness Pty Ltd **Rural Directions Pty Ltd** SGA Solutions Pty Ltd

TE Storage & Logistics Pty Ltd Ten Tigers

International Affiliate

CIS - Commodity Inspection Services

CCIC Australia Pty Ltd

Industry Association

AEGIC **Grain Growers Limited** Grain Industry Association of WA Grain Producers Australia Ltd **NSW Farmers Association**

Victorian Farmers Federation

Merchant Association

Grain Industry Association of SA **Grain Industry Association Of Victoria** Grain NSW Inc

Queensland Agricultural Merchants Inc.

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Life Members

Mr Mervyn May Mr Christopher Kelly Mr Geoff Honey *(Posthumously awarded)* Retired K M & W M Kelly & Sons Former GTA CEO Awarded July 2015 Awarded July 2016

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