

27 FEB 2017



OIA17-0052

Gary Stephenson
Care of FYI website

Dear Gary Stephenson

OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST

I refer to your official information request on 4 February 2017 relating to veterinary vaccines for viruses that are considered lethal to animals. The Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) assumes that the queries you raise are in regard to the Rabbit Haemorrhagic Disease Virus (RHDV). You specifically asked:

- *On what grounds is a veterinary vaccine considered to have proven efficacy against a virus that is lethal to animals?*
- *What validation testing has to be carried out?*
- *What standards must be met?*

As previously advised in correspondence from Hon Nathan Guy, Minister for Primary Industries (MIN16-0267) on 5 May 2016 and the former Minister for Food Safety (MIN16-0031) on 11 February 2016, the Agricultural Compounds & Veterinary Medicines Act 1997 (ACVM) application process assesses a range of associated risk areas, including the availability of effective vaccines.

Further details on the ACVM process is available on our website here: (<http://www.foodsafety.govt.nz/industry/acvm>).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'GG', written over a white background.

Geoff Gwyn
Director Readiness and Response Services