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TASMANIAN GOVERNMENT MEDIA RELEASE



Guy Barnett, Minister for Minister for Primary Industries & Water
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Independent review of potato imports welcomed

The Tasmanian Government welcomes today's release of the independent review into the Conditional Exemption to import potatoes from a single South Australian company earlier this year.

The review has confirmed that the decision to grant the exemption was justified and technically sound, and that the Conditional Exemption should remain in place, subject to additional safeguards that the Department has committed to implementing.

The report has made three recommendations that the Department has accepted and will implement as soon as possible.

As I have said, improved communications with industry on this matter would have been beneficial and I am pleased the Department has also committed to improve their consultation processes in the future.

We rely on national and international arrangements for trade and to help protect our primary industries, and we must ensure these arrangements are upheld.

Our biosecurity system is based on science and evidence, independent of political opinion, and we will continue to work with the industry to ensure our strong biosecurity standards in Tasmania.