24 September 2001

Senator the Hon Judith Troeth
Parliamentary Secretary
to the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Minister

On behalf of the National Registration Authority for Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals, I am pleased to provide the final proof of the NRA’s Annual Report, for the year ending 30 June 2001 for your approval and tabling in Parliament.

I believe the annual report fulfils the provisions of the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Act 1992 and the Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997 (CAC Act). The report highlights positively the work of an organisation that is clearly focused on meeting its responsibilities in a cost-effective, timely and responsible manner.

Yours sincerely

[Signature]

John S Keniry
Chairperson
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Registered products in the marketplace meet legislative requirements for performance and safety due to sound decision making.

- Chemistry and residue evaluation
- Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act

Other major achievements.

**OUTPUT 1.1.2**

Post registration including compliance with the law through product review, quality assurance and enforcement programs, and communication

Chemical manufacturers and retailers comply with their responsibilities under the Code.

- Manufacturers’ Licensing Scheme – promoting good manufacturing practice
- Monitoring and control of HGP
- Monitoring compliance on endosulfan
- Monitoring and control of imported agricultural and veterinary chemicals

Reports of non-compliance and suspected adverse experiences linked to veterinary chemical products are recorded, investigated and responded to according to risk management principles.

- Reports of non-compliance
- Investigations and recalls
- Adverse Experience Reports

Review existing chemical products on a risk basis to ensure they meet current requirements for performance and safety.

- Chlorpyrifos Review
- Chlorfenvinphos Review
- Endosulfan Review

Other major achievements.

**OUTPUT 1.1.3**

Effective business management through appropriate corporate structures and services

The NRA’s industry customers, chemical users and other stakeholders are aware of NRA’s role and its programs

NRA’s operations are consistent with government and legislative requirements

Within the NRAs Quality System, team performance and productivity are improved

Other Major Achievements
OUTPUT 1.1.4
Valued and highly trained people who deliver high quality services
Negotiate, agree and implement the NRA’s third Certified Agreement
Management Practices define key corporate processes
Upgrade performance, training and selection processes
Other achievements

Social Justice, Equity and External Scrutiny
Social Justice and Equity
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<td>Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry–Australia</td>
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<td>agvet</td>
<td>agricultural and veterinary</td>
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<td>Agvet Code</td>
<td>Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code</td>
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<td>AQIS</td>
<td>Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service</td>
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<td>Codex Alimentarius Commission</td>
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<td>Crop Protection Approvals Pty Ltd</td>
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<td>Department of Natural Resources and Environment Victoria</td>
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<td>EA</td>
<td>Environment Australia</td>
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<td>EU</td>
<td>European Union</td>
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<td>Equal Employment Opportunity</td>
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<td>GMP</td>
<td>good manufacturing practice</td>
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<tr>
<td>HGP</td>
<td>hormonal growth promotant</td>
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<td>ILC</td>
<td>Industry Liaison Committee</td>
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<td>ITC</td>
<td>Industry Technical Committee</td>
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<td>JETACAR</td>
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<td>MRL</td>
<td>maximum residue limit</td>
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The NRA Annual Report 2000–2001 has been prepared in accordance with the Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997 (CAC Act), and in particular the CAC Orders 1998 dealing with reports of operations. This index shows where to find the sections of this report that comply with particular requirements of the CAC Orders. The index also includes all other compliance reporting requirements.

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In each year that I have been Chairman of the National Registration Authority for Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (NRA), it has been a rewarding experience to review, through the Annual Report, the achievements of the organisation noting the breadth of issues that it has had to deal with.

The NRA continues to be an outcomes focussed organisation with a strong commitment to continuous improvement, quality and performance. Our staff, of course, remain the key. Their work, including that of advisory agencies, continues to receive wide recognition, not only for technical competence, but for the level of forward thinking and effort placed upon addressing issues of real concern and continuous re-evaluation of all aspects of the NRA’s operations. The status quo is therefore regularly challenged which I believe should give comfort to the government, our stakeholders and the wider community that the registration of agricultural and veterinary chemical products in Australia is comprehensive and thorough.

As I have noted in past Annual Reports, the chemical industry and farmers naturally take a close interest in our product registration activities. For some years now more than 95% of all applications have been completed within the legislated timeframe. This year has been no different with 97.1% finalised applications being completed within the allocated timeframe.

At the same time, the NRA finalised 836 applications for a permit to allow trials to proceed, or products to be used “off-label” including emergencies such as the control of plague locusts, Orange Rust in sugarcane and Red Imported Fire Ants in Queensland.

The Board is conscious of the need to monitor the issuing of Permits to ensure that they do not become a vehicle to avoid registration. During the year the NRA continued with a comprehensive review of the Permits System with major outcomes being greater clarification of minor and major crops, the development of new guidelines and requirements to assist the producer and chemical industries and internal process changes so as to align more closely with those in registration.
Throughout the year, the registration program also put in place operational procedures for the management of data protection which is being considered by the government. Effort was also put into reviewing procedures by which the quality of active constituents and formulated products are assessed and continuously monitored. It is expected that proposed changes to the approval of Technical Grade Active Constituents (TGAC) will be available for discussion with industry and other stakeholders towards the end of 2001.

The Board awaits the introduction by the Government of legislative amendments that will allow certain low regulatory requirement products to be processed in a more efficient manner. The establishment of the Office of Gene Technology Regulator (OGTR) is also expected to bring some change to the operations of the NRA as arrangements for the assessment of products of gene technology used in agriculture are developed. The NRA looks forward to developing a strong relationship with the OGTR. The Board also anticipates that the long-standing administrative issues that have prevented the timely promulgation of maximum residue limits (MRL) will be finally resolved.

Some of the most difficult and complex issues dealt with by the Board continue to be associated with the NRA’s chemical review program which has now reassessed approximately 1000 products based upon 35 active constituents. During the year, reviews of aldicarb and sulphonamides were completed, reviews of chlorpyrifos and chlorfenvinphos were completed to the interim report stage while further data is generated and reviews of diazinon and pindone were released for public comment.

The Board continued to progress the review of the organophosphorous compounds used in the sheep industry and is now waiting on responses from the chemical, wool and sheepmeat industries on how issues of concern are to be addressed. Resolution of the problem will require the integrated cooperation of registrants and user industries. Without a satisfactory response, the NRA may, having regard to the legislation, have no alternative but to withdraw products or uses from the market. The Board continues to encourage close NRA/industry consultation on this important issue.

Of the more difficult review matters was the use of ultra low volume (ULV) formulations of endosulfan including in the cotton industry and the potential for such use to unduly prejudice trade through residues of endosulfan in export meat. Information about long-distance drift caused the NRA in March 2000 to suspend the use of all ULV endosulfan products. Use was permitted through the 2000–2001 cotton season while further research was undertaken but the inability to successfully manage long-distance drift remained unaddressed and the Board, following further review, withdrew the registration of all ULV products endosulfan uses.

The Board also requested a review of all other ULV products for potential drift problems. On the basis of available information, it was judged that other ULV do not present the same level of risk.

The NRA completed a comprehensive review of the Existing Chemical Review Program and Special Review Program which was conducted in cooperation with the advisory agencies. The program has now been restructured to improve overall flexibility and effectiveness through more efficient use of resources, including the targeting of effort to more urgent issues. It will also allow more time for industry and community interest groups to prepare input to the program and greater opportunity to coordinate reviews with those of other countries thereby maximising cooperation at the international level.
The NRA is very conscious of the efforts it must undertake to assess the trade implications arising from chemical use. This appears to be more significant for the meat industry and with this in mind, the NRA actively seeks meat industry comment on proposed new product registrations. There is also a close working relationship with other government agencies, producer industry associations and other stakeholders. This is enhancing the NRA’s ability to assess likely trade problems while informing others of the NRA’s activities.

As a further measure of the efforts to assist industry avoid unacceptable residues, the NRA commenced work on a four year project to prepare a series of stockfeed guidelines. These will assist farmers and stockfeed manufacturers to avoid violative residues when formulating diets for animals.

Throughout the year, the Board remained very conscious of the fact that a strong registration program must be complemented by an equally strong compliance and quality assurance effort. Consequently, the Board commenced a review of the Manufacturers Licensing Scheme to determine whether the current program objectives remain appropriate and that the strategies employed by the program continue to be effective in ensuring the quality of veterinary drugs offered for sale in Australia. The views of industry and other stakeholders are being sought and NRA staff have closely examined similar licensing schemes operating in the USA and European Union. Should there be a need to make adjustments to the program, then options for change will be widely discussed with AFFA stakeholders and subsequently ARMCANZ.

Good evidence is now appearing that manufacturers and suppliers are heeding the NRAs warning that substandard products and actions contrary to legislative requirements will be dealt with through investigation and possible prosecution. In 1999–2000, the NRA received 420 reports of possible non-compliance while for this year, only 287 new reports were received. This is encouraging and demonstrates that consistent effort by NRA compliance staff is bringing rewards in the form of a reduction in non-compliant product in the marketplace.

The NRA will continue to follow up on all reports of suspected non-compliance and when judged appropriate, will prosecute. To do otherwise is failing in our legislative responsibilities.

I would like to acknowledge the efforts of the compliance staff in facilitating the importation of drugs for competing animals during the Sydney 2000 Olympic and Para Olympic Games. NRA compliance staff worked closely with the Australian Customs Service and SOCOG to provide 24 hour on-call assistance in the lead up to, and during the Games. Our relationship with Customs is a vital element in our overall compliance effort and it was pleasing to recently have executed an MOU with Customs that allows for even greater cooperation in the future through the exchange of information for use in the investigation of alleged breaches of the legislation.

The NRA continues to place a heavy emphasis on its communication effort. Throughout the year the Board continued to derive considerable benefit from meetings with stakeholders including a wide range of chemical user groups. Their experiences in the real world of chemical use is usefully applied across all areas of NRA activity. This interaction with users is so important, that within the Board’s overall communication strategy for the organisation, specific attention is being given to a rural awareness program with the aim of raising rural community understanding of how NRA programs impact upon them, providing information that allows farmers to influence NRA programs such as the minor use program and raising awareness of the need for farmers and the wider community to use chemicals correctly. NRA staff and the Board itself will continue to seek meaningful communication and consultation with farmers and other stakeholders.
The Board would once again like to thank all NRA staff for their efforts. Examination of this Annual Report alone, provides only some insight into the multitude of complex issues they are involved with. It does not convey the professionalism or dedication of our staff in making the NRA the respected regulatory agency that it is. It was therefore appropriate that during the course of the year the NRA’s third Certified Agreement was negotiated, agreed and implemented. This agreement further consolidated the NRA’s terms and conditions of employment delivering salary increases over a three year period, more flexible personal leave arrangements, a revised performance management scheme and the establishment of an NRA Staff Consultative Committee. On behalf of the Board I would particularly like to thank elected staff representatives and management representatives whose sustained, collaborative and participative approach resulted in the Agreement being accepted by 90% of staff.

The year ahead will present new and ongoing challenges. It will see the introduction of selected e-commerce arrangements, the implementation of the revamped chemical review program and the introduction of new legislative provisions that will allow the NRA to deal with low risk products in a more efficient manner. The year is also likely to see the outcome of the Productivity Commission’s Review of Cost Recovery Arrangements which may have a bearing on NRA cost recovery policies as well as completion of the Review of Administrative Arrangements for Commonwealth Public Health and Safety Regulation undertaken by the Regulatory Reform Taskforce within the Department of Health and Aged Care. There will also be ongoing effort to finalise aspects of the National Competition Policy Review that may change some aspects of NRA’s operations.

However my fellow Board members and I, see the NRA’s success over recent years as more than just the sum of its program outcomes. Its real achievement has been its ongoing ability to respond effectively to change and to continuously seek to improve its performance. In June 2002, the NRA will be one year from its 10th anniversary. With this in sight, the Board is conscious that it is now time to commence a detailed examination of the factors that might impinge upon the management of agricultural and veterinary chemicals over the next 5–10 years. The Board is therefore taking a very direct involvement in assessing likely future strategic influences on chemicals management which may help to shape the future activities of the NRA.

Once again, the review of this Annual Report has been a rewarding and satisfying experience.

John S Keniry
Introduction to NRA
Role and background

The Commonwealth, States and Territories established the National Registration Scheme for Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals in 1991. The National Registration Authority (NRA) is responsible for administering and managing legislation established under the National Registration Scheme on behalf of the Commonwealth, States and Territories. The legislation seeks to centralise the regulation of agricultural and veterinary (agvet) chemicals in Australia. In this role the NRA assesses, registers and regulates agvet chemical products up to, and including, the point of retail sale. Responsibility for control-of-use of agvet chemicals, such as licensing of pest control operators and aerial spraying, continues to reside with the States and Territories.

Through the National Registration Scheme, the NRA delivers registration, quality assurance and compliance. In particular, the NRA:

• assesses the safety and performance of products;
• determines whether their use is likely to jeopardise trade;
• regulates the supply of agvet chemicals to the Australian market by approving product labels and specifying conditions of use.

The work of the NRA safeguards the health of people, animals and the environment, and international trade. Appendix B provides an overview of the National Registration Scheme. It explains the registration process and the NRA’s role in the scheme.

Customers and stakeholders

The NRA’s main customers are people and companies who must:

• register products;
• obtain approval of technical grade active constituents (TGACs);
• obtain permits to use chemicals in emergency, research and off-label situations, or obtain manufacturing licences.

The NRA has a large number of stakeholders. They include the agvet chemicals industry, farmers, rural sector organisations, environmental, consumer and community groups, other Commonwealth and State/Territory government agencies that help operate the National Registration Scheme, and international regulatory authorities.

Service Charter

As part of the NRA’s commitment to customers and stakeholders, the NRA revised its customer service charter in 2000–2001. The service charter follows on from the earlier version, building on, and realising, the NRA’s commitment to improved customer service. The NRA service charter is freely available to all customers and interested parties.

Governing legislation

The NRA operates under two key pieces of legislation:

• Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Act 1992
• Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Act 1994.

The Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Act 1992 established the National Registration Scheme in 1993. It also set out the NRA’s role as an independent statutory authority undertaking the Commonwealth’s responsibilities under the scheme and provides the NRA with its full range of powers.
The Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Act 1994 scheduled to the Act details the operational provisions for registering chemical products.

Various other statutes and delegated legislation are also administered by the NRA. These are described in detail at Appendix C.

**Performance Information**

The outputs and related performance indicators identified in the NRA component of the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Portfolio Budget Statement for the 2000/2001 year provides the basic framework for the presentation of the NRA’s performance information for this year.

Through the development of a world-class registration scheme for agricultural and veterinary chemical products, the NRA is working toward the outcome of protecting the health and safety of people, animals and the environment and supporting Australian agricultural and livestock industries.

The specific outputs that the NRA sought to achieve over the course of the year were:

- Registration of agvet chemical products that are effective for their intended purpose and satisfy requirements for safety to people, animals, the environment and trade.
- Post-registration including compliance with the law through product review, quality assurance and enforcement programs and communication.
- Effective business management through appropriate corporate structures and services.
- Valued and highly trained people who deliver quality services.

These outputs and the related performance indicators are central to the NRA’s key planning tools, its Corporate Plan and Operational Plan.

The Corporate Plan outlining the broad vision for the organisation for the period 2000/2001 to 2002/2003 was approved by Senator Troeth in June 2000. The Operational Plan was also approved by the Senator at that time.

**Funding Arrangements**

The NRA’s total revenue for 2000–01 was $18.76 million. This revenue was collected mainly from the agvet chemicals industry. Fees are paid to apply for, and annually renew, product registrations. Levies are paid annually according to the level of disposals of registered agvet chemical products. In 2000–01 industry contributions were 93% of total revenue.

As an agency operating on full cost recovery, business efficiency and customer service are key priorities for the NRA.

**Ministerial responsibilities**

The NRA is a statutory authority within the Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry portfolio.

The responsible Minister during the reporting period was Senator the Hon. Judith Troeth, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

The NRA Chairperson reports regularly to Senator Troeth on NRA activities. The Minister continues to have overall policy responsibility for agvet chemicals.
The NRA’s focus and strategic direction is determined by a Board of Directors, as described under the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Act 1992. The Board comprises a Chairperson and eight other directors. Board members are selected for their experience in relation to a number of areas including the regulation of chemical products at State or Territory level, the agricultural and veterinary chemicals industry, primary production, occupational health and safety, consumer issues, and the development or administration of Commonwealth Government policy or in the operation or management of a Commonwealth statutory authority. All appointments are on a part-time basis. The current Board was appointed by the Minister on 16 March 2000 for a term expiring on 15 October 2002.

It should be noted that Directors of the NRA, notwithstanding the experience they have as detailed above, are not representatives of organisations or particular interest groups. The Board of Directors constitutes the NRA and acts in the corporate interest of the NRA by overseeing its operations and defining key policies for the regulation of agricultural and veterinary chemicals up to and including the point of retail sale. This is consistent with the functions, powers and responsibilities specified by the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Act 1992 [the Act], Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997 and related Commonwealth legislation. In so doing, the Board takes advice and recommendations from its consultative committees and NRA staff. The Board is responsible for ensuring that adequate resources and expertise are available so that the NRA may fulfil its functions and exercise the powers set out in the Act. Responsibility for implementing those policies and managing day-to-day operations rests with the Chief Executive Officer.

Details of the Board, meetings held, attendance and declared interests are at Appendix A.

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NRA Board of Directors

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Details of the Board, meetings held, attendance and declared interests are at Appendix A.
Introduction to the NRA

Lyn Fragar, MB BS, DTM&H, MPH, Dip AgEc, FAFPHM RACP
Public health / occupational health physician and currently Director of the Australian Centre for Agricultural Health and Safety (University of Sydney). Member of the Pesticide Implementation Committee of the NSW EPA. Mr Fragar is a Director of Farmsafe Australia Inc., a member of Occupational Health and Safety Committee of Standards Australia, the International Commission on Occupational Health and Safety and the International Association of Agricultural Medicine and Rural Health.

Deputy Managing Director, Wesfarmers CSBP Ltd. Experience in the agricultural and veterinary chemicals industry. Mr Allison is also President of Avcare and Agsafe.

Ian Champion
Consultant to the animal health industry. Experience in the agricultural and veterinary chemicals industry. Mr Champion is a Member of the Board's Audit Committee.

Peter Dingle, PhD, BSc (Hons), BEd
Lecturer, Environmental Science, Murdoch University, WA. Experience in the protection of consumer interests.

Michael Nicholls, B Mech Eng., MIEA
Grazier, southern NSW, specialising in production of superfine wool. Experience in primary production. Director of ChemCert (NSW) Ltd, the Australian Animal Health Council, Chair of the NSW Statutory Ovine Johnes Disease Industry Advisory Committee, member of National and NSW Farmers’ Federation advisory committees and the Wool Council of Australia. Mr Nicholls is a Member of the Board’s Audit Committee.

Lyn Fragar, MB BS, DTM&H, MPH, Dip AgEc, FAFPHM RACP
Public health / occupational health physician and currently Director of the Australian Centre for Agricultural Health and Safety (University of Sydney). Member of the Pesticide Implementation Committee of the NSW EPA. Dr Fragar is a Director of Farmsafe Australia Inc., a member of Occupational Health and Safety Committee of Standards Australia, the International Commission on Occupational Health and Safety and the International Association of Agricultural Medicine and Rural Health.

Merrilyn McPherson, Dip. Elec. Eng., FIEA, FAICD
First Assistant Secretary, Major Industry Projects, Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry — Australia (AFFA). Experience in the development or administration of Commonwealth government policy, or in the operation or management of a statutory authority established by or under a law of the Commonwealth, as an officer or employee of the authority. Member of the Dairy Adjustment Authority Board.
Structure

The NRA is managed by a Chief Executive Officer (CEO), who is responsible to the Board of Directors.

The work of the NRA is divided into three programs:

- **Registration Program**, which comprises:
  - Agricultural Chemicals Evaluation
  - Chemistry and Chemical Residue Evaluation
  - Registration and Customer Service
  - Veterinary Chemicals Evaluation

- **Policy and Public Affairs Program**, which comprises:
  - Chemical Review
  - Communication and Secretariat
  - Quality Assurance and Compliance

- **Corporate Services Program**, which comprises:
  - Finance and Administration
  - Employee Services
  - Information Services
  - Information Technology
  - Strategic Development Projects

The CEO oversees the NRA's legal program and quality system.

The NRA's structure is illustrated in Figure 2.
The NRA’s Executive comprises the CEO and three executive managers. The Executive team and their areas of responsibility, as at 30 June 2001, are described below.

**Chief Executive Officer**

**Dr Alison Turner**  
BVSc, Dip Vet Cl Stud, MSc FAICD

The CEO consults with the NRA’s Board and main stakeholders to set the organisation’s vision, strategy and objectives to meet its legislative responsibilities. The CEO’s principal responsibilities are oversight of the preparation of strategic, financial and operational plans and budgets for Board approval; monitoring of financial and operational performance; and program oversight to ensure the NRA meets its objectives.

A large part of the CEO’s time involves communicating with stakeholders, including State and Commonwealth government agencies, community groups, farming organisations and the chemical industry.

The CEO takes a leadership role for the organisation, particularly in ensuring that a quality service is provided to clients and customers.

**Deputy Chief Executive Officer**  
and Executive Manager, Policy and Public Affairs

**Greg Hooper**  
BSc (Ind Chem)

The Executive Manager, Policy and Public Affairs, is responsible for NRA programs aimed at ensuring product quality and conformance with regulatory standards. These include the Chemical Review Program, the Compliance Program and the licensing scheme for veterinary chemical manufacturers.

The position manages external issues that may impact on the work of the NRA. There is considerable emphasis on communicating and consulting with the community, stakeholders and the media, as well as cooperating with other agencies, both local and overseas, on technical and policy issues.
Executive Manager, Registration

Peter Raphael
MSc (Elec Eng), BSc (Ind Chem)

The Executive Manager, Registration, provides strategic and operational management for: the assessment and registration of agricultural and veterinary chemical products; the approval of TGACs; the evaluation of residue data and setting of maximum residue limits (MRLs); and maintenance of the National Chemicals Registration Information System (NCRIS) database.

The position is responsible for process improvement projects such as accreditation to international standard AS/NZS ISO 9002, continuous improvement, performance and productivity measurement, prescreening and timeframe management.

Executive Manager, Corporate Services

Tony de la Fosse
BA, Grad Dip HRM, MBA, GAICD

The Executive Manager, Corporate Services, manages and provides strategic advice to the NRA Executive and Board on finance and administration, human resources, information services, information technology (IT) and strategic projects.

Key responsibilities include provision of timely and accurate financial data, preparation of financial plans, budgets and strategies that maximise the organisation’s ability to deliver quality services within the constraints of its funding.

The position has responsibility for providing strategic advice to the NRA Executive, Board and staff on human resource and industrial relations issues including negotiating and implementing the NRA’s Certified Agreement, and for the development and implementation of management practices covering the many terms and conditions of employment for employees.

Other key areas that come within this position’s responsibility are the library, records management, archive system, website administration, intranet, e-commerce initiatives and the support and ongoing development of the NRA’s IT infrastructure.
There were a number of significant developments over the course of 2000–2001 as the NRA sought to maintain a world class registration scheme for agricultural and veterinary chemical products, its central output.

Time taken to process product registration applications is a major issue for industry. Over the year the NRA was able to complete the evaluation of more than 97% of applications for agricultural and veterinary product registrations within statutory timeframes. This result was ahead of the ambitious target of 95%.

Work began in association with health and agriculture authorities on the implementation of the recommendations of the Report of the Joint Expert Advisory Committee on Antibiotic Resistance (JETACAR). The work involves the review of some existing antibiotics used in livestock production and the development of guidelines for the use of new antibiotics.

The registration status of a number of chemical products was reviewed through the Existing Chemical Review Program over the course of the year. Of particular significance was the completion of an interim review of chlorpyrifos, a commonly used organophosphate insecticide, applied in agriculture as well as the home and garden. A number of the product use conditions were tightened and some products were cancelled as the result of the interim review findings. Additional data on the chemical needs to be generated by the product registrants before the review can be finalised.

A market research survey was undertaken with Australian manufacturers of veterinary products to determine the effectiveness of the Manufacturers Licensing Scheme.

Endosulfan, an insecticide used predominantly in the cotton industry, was reviewed in 1998. Continuing concerns emerged in 2000 over its use in ultra low volume form that is delivered as a fine mist and can be subject to drift. After further consideration registration of all ultra low volume endosulfan products was cancelled in March 2001.

Input to the work of key international bodies remained a priority in 2000–2001. The NRA Deputy CEO was appointed as vice-chair of the OECD's Working Group on Pesticides and played a lead role in the Group's work sharing project and also the Codex Alimentarius Commission. The organisation also contributed extensively to the collaborative efforts of the International Co-operation on Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Registration of Veterinary Products (VICH), particularly its Antibiotics Working Group.

The NRA's third Certified Agreement was agreed to by a 90% 'yes' vote from staff in April 2001. A revised People Plan to apply to the period 2001–2003 was finalised in June 2001.

There were a number of advances made in the NRA's effective use of information technology through the implementation of a new IT Strategic Plan. Through the Plan the reliability of the total computer network has been improved, the usability and reliability of the extensive databases has been boosted and the NRA web-site has been redesigned to improve public ease of access to information.

As part of a plan to make greater use of e-commerce an electronic accounts payable system has now been introduced.

The Australian National Audit Office (ANAO) recently completed their audit of the NRA's 2000–2001 Financial Statements. The result of the audit was an unqualified audit report. In addition to this the ANAO issued a Closing Audit Report, which summarised the results of the audit. This report contained no findings in regard to accounting and auditing issues or recommendations for process improvement.
Finance

Detailed financial statements of the NRA are provided at pages 47–74.

The NRA recorded a surplus of $1.043 million for the year ended 30 June 2001.

The NRA’s revenue for the year was $18.76 million, an increase of 1.2 per cent over 1999–00 revenue. The main reason for this increase was the combination of higher interest revenue (up 41 per cent) as a result of higher levels of cash reserves and the implementation of a more professional investment strategy; an increase in registration renewals (up 4.8 per cent) and a decrease in both levies (down 1.1 per cent) and application fees (down 7.1 per cent). Applications received were down slightly on the previous year and included a large volume of low or nil fee applications resulting in a decrease in application fees from the prior year.

Operating expenses totalled $17.72 million, up 9.2 per cent on 1999–00. This increase is primarily due to the increase in employee expenses of 9.6 per cent, reflecting higher approved staffing levels for 2000–01 (2000–01: 124, 1999–00: 113), together with expenditure associated with the implementation of the NRA’s new Certified Agreement. In addition, depreciation and amortisation expense increased by 22 per cent as a result of a change in accounting policy in regard to the useful lives of assets.

Asset additions for the year totalled $936,713 and were primarily associated with the implementation of the NRA’s IT Strategic Plan, database development and the redevelopment of the NRA’s Internet site.

As set out in Note 2 to the financial statements (page 62), there is a variation between the actual and budgeted net cost to outcome. The principal reasons for this variation are:

- higher levels of industry contributions due to increased usage, sales and registration of agvet chemical products. In 2000–01 the Federal Government at the request of the NRA reduced the levy rate from 0.75% to 0.65% and as a result expected a significant decrease in levy revenue. However, due to higher total chemical sales, the resulting levy revenue was higher than anticipated;
- deferral of some new initiatives from 2000–01 to 2001–02; and
- increased investment earnings generated by the higher levels of cash holdings resulting from the above factors and a more professional investment policy. This involved investing in Australian Bank Commercial Bills and contributed to the increase in interest revenue discussed above. The NRA has not made any borrowings during the year.

Funding Arrangements

The NRA’s total revenue for 2000–01 was $18.76 million. This revenue is collected mainly from the agvet chemicals industry. Fees are paid to apply for, and annually renew, product registrations. Levies are paid annually according to the level of disposals of registered agvet chemical products. In 2000–01 industry contributions were 93 per cent of total revenue.

As an agency operating on full cost recovery, business efficiency and customer service are key priorities for the NRA.
Outlook

There are a number of important developments and initiatives likely to have a significant impact on the NRA’s operations over the coming year. These include:

• A government decision on whether to proceed with a program focused on ensuring the chemical quality of agriculture chemicals.
• The operation of a more streamlined Chemical Review Program, responsive to emerging problems.
• Further implementation of the NRA’s information technology strategic plan, including:
  – the extension of e-commerce facilities that will see the majority of the NRA’s revenue taken securely over the Internet;
  – the trial of an Internet based ‘on-line’ facility for registration applications;
  – a new Internet based search facility for off-label permits;
  – the implementation of a corporate Intranet and associated knowledge management initiative; and
  – the introduction of Business Intelligence to improve reporting and performance monitoring.
• The implementation of the government’s Gene Technology legislation will have impacts on the scope of the Agvet legislation and NRA processes relating to GMOs.
• The implementation of the National Competition Policy Review decision on fees will need to be reflected in the fees, charges and processes of the NRA.
• A number of proposed changes to our legislation will need to be reflected in our operational procedures.
• The Government will address resolve a number of issues relating to MRLs. This should hopefully resolve outstanding difficulties in the timely inclusion of Maximum Residue Limits in Australia’s Food Standards Code as well as issues on fees.
• Government legislation on data protection will need to be finally implemented within the NRA.

Developments after 30 June 2001

Since the end of the financial year there have not been any developments that will significantly affect the NRA’s future operations.
Performance Reports
The NRA’s output-outcome structure for 2000–2001 is set out in the table below.

The performance information contained in this report is presented in line with the output/performance measure structure. Progress in the realisation of each output is reported on in terms of the nominated measures of performance as well as other major achievements.

The total resources employed in the pursuit of Outcome 1 were $17.72 million. Staffing over the year averaged 124.
Improved industry compliance with registration requirements due to better information and feedback.

NRA is continually reviewing and updating the advisory documentation provided to industry. The aim is to help industry to satisfy legislative requirements relating to the registration of new products, variations to the registration of previously registered products and the approval of product labels. The reviews are done in close consultation with industry (via Industry Liaison Committee (ILC) and the Industry Technical Committee (ITC)) and with the States (via the Registration Liaison Committee (RLC)). All guidelines – including new guidelines as they become available – are published on the NRA website.

During the year, the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Labelling Codes (separate publications) were substantially updated to include all amendments that had been agreed since March 1997. A further, more substantial, review of these documents is in progress. The current review will consider the impact of State Control-of-Use legislation, as well as other inputs from reviews by other agencies and various stakeholder groups, with the objectives of facilitating compliance with State law and making labels less confusing to users.

Three major new guidelines were published during the year:
- guidelines for therapeutic pet foods that require registrations as veterinary chemical products;
- efficacy data guidelines for the registration of antifouling products; and
- updated NRA requirements for the labelling of agricultural chemical products for use in tree and vine crops.

In addition, the NRA also adopted the International Committee for Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Registration of Veterinary Medical Products (VICH) Guidelines 1–14 and 17. Their adoption is consistent with NRA commitment to international harmonisation of requirements for the registration of veterinary chemical products. Australia and New Zealand have observer status on VICH and continue to make inputs to that committee in relation to good clinical practice, food safety, ecotoxicity, veterinary biologicals and anthelmintics, and pharmacovigilance. All currently agreed VICH guidelines are available on the NRA website.

The consultative approach to the development of the NRA-VICH guidelines and their ready availability have led to further improvements in the quality of applications received, with consequent reductions in the time taken for applications to achieve registration. During the past year, 97.1% of agvet chemical applications were approved within legislative timeframes.

Chemistry and residue evaluation

During 2000–2001, Chemistry and Residue Evaluation published minimum compositional standards for technical grade active constituents (TGACs), and guidelines for minor formulation changes for veterinary chemicals and for the generation of storage stability data for agricultural chemical products. The NRA also adopted the VICH guideline on stability data requirements and analytical methods.

The NRA’s Agricultural Residue Evaluation area published ‘Residue Guideline 24: Residue trials to obtain permanent MRLs (maximum residue limits) for crops’, and a Fact Sheet on managing endosulfan.
residues in crops, animal feeds and livestock. In addition, the NRA contributed material on residues to the SAFEMEAT publication, ‘Plague locusts and livestock residues’.

The NRA visited a number of sugar cane and rubus growers in 2000–2001. The visits gave the NRA a better understanding of these industries and their needs, and the growers an understanding of what NRA does and how it can assist them. As a result of the visits and articles published, there was an increase in the number of Minor Use Permit applications lodged with the NRA. During the year, the NRA worked with Horticulture Australia to develop an application for import tolerances. The objective of the collaboration was to assist the horticultural industry to maintain market access to Taiwan.

The NRA published a number of Residue Guidelines in 2000–2001. Guidelines released were:

• 22: Residues in milk – parasiticides and drugs other than antimicrobials;
• 24: Residue trials to obtain permanent MRLs for crops;
• 26: Veterinary drug residue analytical methods;
• 27: Ectoparasiticide residues in sheep tissues;
• 28: Residues in honey; and
• 29: Residues in abalone.

Consultation with the dairy industry over issues of concern resulted in the publication of two NRA Gazette notices. The topics were disclosure of residue analytical methods, and the need to submit starter culture data when applying for the registration of new antimicrobial agents used on dairy cows. The NRA Board, as part of their regular visits to stakeholder industries, visited the dairy research facilities at Ellenbank in Victoria to gain first hand knowledge of the issues of concern to the dairy industry.

The NRA also participated in audits on the regulation of veterinary drugs and the dairy industry by the European Union (EU) and US Department of Agriculture (USDA), respectively.

### NRA Permit Scheme

The NRA has further developed links with industry groups and associations throughout the year, discussing how those industries may best progress their minor use needs through the National Minor Use Program or through Product Registration. These groups represented commodities such as almonds, aquaculture, berry fruits, chestnuts, grains (including pulses) and mushrooms. It is envisaged that those discussions will help industries to refine their chemical priorities, discussing these needs with the NRA and making minor use permit applications as appropriate.

Seminars and conference presentations explaining the National Permits Scheme and Minor Use Program throughout Australia have continued. These have been well received. They have increased awareness of regulatory issues and assisted many industries in addressing their chemical needs.

The NRA continued to meet with and receive minor use applications from Crop Protection Approvals Pty Ltd (CPA). Discussions have focused on effective ways to resolve issues facing minor users of chemicals, allowing them to gain access to approved products. It was agreed that changes are required on both sides and that the implementation of the Permit Review will produce better outcomes for minor users. It has been agreed that NRA officers will meet regularly with CPA to discuss and screen new CPA proposals and to ensure those requests are complete and appropriate data generated.

The NRA received $108,000 from the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry to assist funding permit scheme activities.

### Decisions about active constituents and chemical products are made within statutory timeframes.

The NRA began the year with 1396 applications for registration, variation of registration, or label approval, in process. An additional 2641 applications were received during the year. These additional applications
represented a small decrease in numbers (190 fewer applications or 7% less) than the previous year.

The NRA finalised 2979 applications, thereby reducing the number of applications in process to 1048. Of the applications finalised, 97.1% were approved within statutory timeframes. This compared to 2853 finalisations, with 98.1% finalised within timeframes, during the previous year.

Of the 2979 applications finalised, 27 represented totally new products based on new active constituents that had not previously been registered as agvet chemical products in Australia. In addition, there were 15 major variations to previously registered products. Each of these 42 applications required extensive public consultation before final approval. These consultations were facilitated by the publication of Public Release Summaries (PRSs) and/or Trade Advice Notes (TANs). These and the balance of the applications were managed according to AS/NZ ISO 9002 (1994) processes that are subjected to internal and external auditing.

### Finalisation of agricultural and veterinary applications 2000–2001

(The tables below include only those applications for which a statutory timeframe can be determined.)

#### Agricultural Registrations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class of Application</th>
<th>Total No. Finalised</th>
<th>No. Finalised vs statutory timeframe</th>
<th>Average Clock time to finalise (months)</th>
<th>Average elapsed time to finalise (months)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>&lt;100%</td>
<td>100–120%</td>
<td>&gt;120%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 Mth assessment</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>1</td>
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<td>3</td>
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<td>8 Mth assessment</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 Mth assessment</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>1192</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>9</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<td><strong>1331 (97.0%)</strong></td>
<td><strong>24</strong></td>
<td><strong>17</strong></td>
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</table>

#### Veterinary Registrations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class of Application</th>
<th>Total No. Finalised</th>
<th>No. Finalised vs statutory timeframe</th>
<th>Average Clock time to finalise (months)</th>
<th>Average elapsed time to finalise (months)</th>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1270</strong></td>
<td><strong>1235 (97.2%)</strong></td>
<td><strong>15</strong></td>
<td><strong>20</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In February 1999, the NRA began work on the Elapsed Time Pilot Project. The purpose of the project was to explore and develop ways to reduce the average elapsed time for all categories of application. In all, nine companies from a cross section of product registrants were selected to participate. The aim of the project is to look at the performance of both the NRA and registrants, identifying deficiencies that add to elapsed time. The project has seen a workshop conducted between participants and the NRA and has made a number of recommendations.

Chemistry and residue evaluation statistics

During 2000–2001, applications for TGACs, formulation chemistry and permits continued to increase, in line with the increases seen over the past two years. Overall, there was a 125% increase in evaluations conducted for permits in the past two years. This increase is largely attributed to the efforts made in addressing minor uses through the development of guidelines for permits. Since 1998–1999, the numbers of TGACs and formulation chemistry evaluations have increased 42%, and 62%, respectively. The NRA conducted chemistry evaluations of 127 TGACs and 248 agvet chemical product applications during 2000–2001. Of these, over 90% were finalised within statutory timeframes.

A total of 100 residue applications and 237 permit applications for agricultural and veterinary residue evaluations were conducted during 2000–2001. Over 90% of these were finalised within statutory timeframes.

The dietary exposure assessment, a component of residue evaluations, was streamlined by the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between NRA and the Australia New Zealand Food Authority (ANZFA) in June 2000. This will result in an agreed protocol being followed in the evaluation of the dietary risk associated with the use of an agvet chemical on food crops or food animals. This means that, before the NRA registers a chemical product, all associated food safety issues will have been satisfied within ANZFA. In addition, a notification procedure that applies to MRL applications from

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NRA to ANZFA was also developed between the two agencies. The procedure will result in an efficiency gain, with respect to the inclusion of MRLs into the Food Standard Code.

Permit statistics

NRA commenced the year with 380 applications for permits in process. During this period, 936 permit applications were received. Of these, 800 (85%) were for agricultural chemicals while 136 (15%) involved veterinary chemicals.

During the review period, the NRA finalised 836 applications of which 660 (79%) resulted in the issue of a permit, 53 (6%) did not require a permit, 91 (11%) were withdrawn and 32 (4%) were rejected because they did not satisfy the legislative criteria. The total number of unfinalised applications at the end of the year was 447.

A total of 55 Emergency Use applications were finalised in the period, including permits for the control of Australian plague locust in several States, orange rust in sugarcane crops and red imported fire ants and crazy ants in Queensland.

Approximately 80% of applications (excluding emergencies) were finalised (i.e. permit issued or rejected) within the statutory timeframe. The average number of days taken by the NRA to complete 90-day applications (which comprise 65% of the total finalised) was 62 days. For 240-day applications (20% of the total finalised), the average was 117 days.

Gene Technology Regulator

The implementation of the new Commonwealth legislation creating the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator (OGTR) will have some impact on the NRA and its stakeholders. The NRA will continue to regulate agricultural and veterinary chemicals as currently defined in the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code. However, where a product is based on gene technology or includes a product of gene technology the NRA is required to advise and consult with the OGTR. Conversely the OGTR will seek NRA input on some applications made to it. The NRA has undertaken consultation with the NRA to ensure process overlaps are introduced efficiently and effectively, and that new requirements are clearly defined and published to assist applicants.

Trade Assessments

The National Registration Scheme legislation requires that the NRA be satisfied about a range of criteria relating to the use of registered agvet products. The legislation also requires that such use will not cause undue prejudice to Australia’s trade. This criterion requires an evaluation of scientific, political and economic factors as they impact on trade. Accordingly the NRA has enhanced its formal evaluation procedure for trade considerations. This draft is being widely circulated to our stakeholders to obtain their views on evaluating and managing trade risk.

Registered products in the marketplace meet legislative requirements for performance and safety due to sound decision making.

The increase in the number of applications processed during the year (finalisations up by 4%) resulted in an increase in the proportion of staff time devoted to evaluation. The extent of evaluation of each application type is determined in accordance with published guidelines. NRA evaluators conduct the greatest proportion of these evaluations. Where necessary and in line with existing agreements, external assistance was sought by the NRA on issues of toxicology, public health, occupational health and safety, and the environment, by the following specialist government agencies:

- the Department of Health and Aged Care – Chemicals and Non Prescription Drugs Branch (Therapeutic Goods Administration);
- the National Occupational Health and Safety Commission (NOHSC); and
- Environment Australia (EA).
Advice is also sought from the States in relation to efficacy, and crop and animal safety, where new chemicals or major new uses are to be registered for the first time.

Where appropriate – as with totally new chemical products based on new active constituents or major variations to the usage of currently registered products – broad public consultation is undertaken through the publication of Public Release Summaries (PRSs) and Trade Advice Notices (TANs). These documents are freely available to interested organisations and persons (including peak industry bodies in relation to possible impacts on trade) who are invited to comment on applications before the NRA makes a final determination.

All internal processes – including the relationships with Commonwealth agencies and the States – are fully documented and subject to constant monitoring by external and internal auditors. These audits form the basis of continuing NRA accreditation to AS/NZ ISO-9002 (1994) standards.

Chemistry and residue evaluation

The NRA performs assessments on new and generic chemicals before their approval for sale. In particular, the manufacturing process, and the purity and content of chemicals, are assessed to ensure they can comply with the relevant standards. In this way, consistent profiles relating to efficacy, public health and environmental issues can be ensured for chemicals from different sources, and between batches from the one source. During 2000–2001, no adverse reports were registered that could be attributed to chemicals being of inferior quality.

Residue and trade assessments must demonstrate that products can be used safely and properly in the market place, including the safety of potential residues in food. Assessment of the latter involves toxicological evaluation (conducted by TGA), the maximum residue limit (MRL) evaluation, and a dietary exposure evaluation. Monitoring of residues in agricultural commodities occurs post-registration for compliance with MRL.

During 2000–2001, the National Residue Survey reported that the rates of compliance with Australian MRLs applying to agvet chemicals were 99.98% (for meat products), 99.97% (grain products), 99.98% (horticultural products), and 100% (fisheries products).

A key objective of trade assessments is to ensure that Australian trade to other countries will not be prejudiced unduly as a result of product registration. A range of options is available for managing risks in trade. Officers from the NRA are active in Codex as part of Australian delegations. Currently, they chair the Priorities Working Group meetings at the Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues and the Codex Committee on Veterinary Drug Residues in Foods, and have completed technical evaluations for the Joint Food and Agricultural Organisation and World Health Organisation (FAO-WHO) Meeting on Pesticide Residues.

Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act

In evaluating applications for registration of chemical products, one of the key areas the NRA examines is effect on the environment. To this end the NRA utilises the independent expertise of Environment Australia when undertaking environmental assessments, through an interagency administrative arrangement between the NRA and Environment Australia. Use of the product is appropriately controlled or restricted where there is a need to manage environmental risks. Environment Australia advice is not in derogation of any obligations on users under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (the EPBC Act). Under this Act, users must not take any action that may have a significant impact on matters of national environmental significance such as nationally threatened species and ecological communities. Particular use of a chemical could therefore require separate assessment and approval under the EPBC Act.
Other Major Achievements.

Data Protection

In 1999, the Government proposed the introduction of a new Data Protection scheme to enhance the current data protection provisions. Currently, data submitted to the NRA by primary registrants can, in some cases, be cross-referenced in the registration of image products (generic formulations) at no cost to the generic registrant. In these cases, the cost of generating the original data is borne solely by the primary registrant, placing it at a commercial disadvantage compared to generic registrants.

The intention of the proposed data protection scheme is to strike a balance between protecting the commercial interests of data owners, and ensuring an appropriate level of competition in the market. To achieve this, primary registrants will either be granted exclusivity for their data, or will be able to seek compensation for access to their data by generic registrants.

In order to be able to administer the new scheme, once legislation is enacted, the NRA undertook a major project to develop the necessary processes and documentation. In addition, staff, contracted agencies and other external assessors received training and information to be aware of the new requirements. The NRA processes are currently on hold pending legislative changes.

Permits review

During the year, the NRA continued its comprehensive review of the permits system and has since moved into a development and implementation phase. Major outcomes are expected in 2001–2002. These include greater clarification of minor and major crops, development of new updated guidelines and requirements, and internal process changes aligned to those in registration.

Trade Advice Notices

The NRA issues Trade Advice Notices (TANs) where a proposed registration or a change in registration conditions has the potential to impact on Australia’s trade. The advice note is distributed to farm and commodity organizations, seeking comment. Sixteen TANs were released for public consideration in 2000–2001.

Public Release Summaries

The NRA prepares a Public Release Summary (PRS) outlining new products with new actives. These are freely available as the basis for comment and constitute the primary medium for public consultation. The summaries include the outcome of all assessments undertaken and any conditions the NRA proposes to apply for the use of the product. During the year, nineteen PRSs were prepared and published for public consultation.

MRL Standard and the Food Standard Code Project

In December 2000, the NRA undertook a project to address discrepancies between the MRL Standard and the Food Standard Code. Amendments to the MRL Standard as a result of this project appeared in the January 2001 issue of the NRA Gazette. The only discrepancies existing now result from the time between publication of the NRA MRL and its adoption into the Food Standards Code.

Dietary risk

The evaluation of acute dietary risk is becoming increasingly important both in Australia and internationally. The NRA, in conjunction with ANZFA, prepared a major discussion paper for the Advisory Committee on Pesticides and Health meeting in April 2001. The NRA undertakes an acute dietary risk evaluation on all commodities associated with the use of a chemical, where an Acute Reference Dose has been established by Codex or by the Therapeutic Goods Administration.
Stockfeed guidelines

During 2000–2001, the NRA began work on a four-year project to prepare a series of stockfeed guidelines. The aim is to determine acceptable feeding levels for animals consuming a commodity treated with chemicals, and to package this information for farmers and stockfeed manufacturers to use when formulating animal diets that will not produce violative residues. This will benefit farmers and others involved in formulating diets for animals. It will facilitate the risk management of diets containing chemical-treated commodities, and the reduction in the risk of violative residues in animal produce.

Scientific Assessment Services

The NRA has service agreements with agencies providing specialist technical and risk assessment advice in particular TGA, EA and NOHSC. The NRA is currently negotiating new agreements with the emphasis on a fee for service payment basis (replacing the current annual lump sum payment) and specified quality requirements and criteria. It is expected the new arrangements will be in place and fully operational during the 2001-2002 financial year.

Agricultural Chemical – Technical Grade Active Constituent Quality Assurance

The Agvet legislation includes provision for licensing of both agricultural and veterinary chemical product manufacturers. At present manufacturers of agricultural chemical products are exempt from the requirements to be licensed. A recommendation of the National Competition Policy Review of Agvet Legislation makes it necessary to review this exemption. At the same time, the NRA and its industry stakeholders have been concerned about possible abuse of the present process for approving new sources of TGACs and the reliance placed on source approval as a means of quality assurance.

To address this issue the NRA has begun a project to consider appropriate ways of ensuring that the quality of TGACs and formulated agricultural products meet NRA requirements. The initial fact finding phase of the project was completed in June 2001. The NRA is in the process of forming a stakeholder working party to develop detailed proposals for quality assurance of agricultural products and their active constituents.
Chemical manufacturers and retailers comply with their responsibilities under the Code.

Manufacturers’ Licensing Scheme – promoting good manufacturing practice

The Manufacturers’ Licensing Scheme (MLS) is a quality assurance program that was established in 1996 in response to concerns over poor veterinary chemical product quality. Industry and government recognised that quality needs to be ‘built into’ rather than ‘tested into’ products. The primary objective of the scheme is to assure (give confidence in) the quality of veterinary chemical products manufactured and supplied in Australia. The legal jurisdiction of the MLS (Part 8 of the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Agvet) Code) extends to all Australian based manufacturers.

To obtain and maintain a manufacturing licence under the MLS, manufacturers must demonstrate compliance with the NRA’s Manufacturing Principles and the relevant Australian Code of Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP Code).

Compliance is confirmed by regular audits from NRA authorised auditors or specified authorities recognised by the NRA. For veterinary chemical products manufactured overseas, the registrant must demonstrate that the product is manufactured to quality standards comparable to those applying to Australian manufactured veterinary chemical products. At 30 June 2001, the number of Australian based manufacturers (including new applications) was 224. Table 1 shows manufacturers distributed according to category.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category of manufacturer</th>
<th>No. of manufacturers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Sterile and immunological products</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Non-sterile (other than groups 3 and 4)</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Ectoparasiticides</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Feed supplements and premixes</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. One step manufacturers (labelling, packaging, analysis and testing etc)</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total, at 30 June 2001</td>
<td>224</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

With the maturation of the scheme, the emphasis has shifted from the promotion of audits to compliance with the standards. As a consequence, the proportion of GMP-compliant, fully licensed manufacturers has increased from 50% at the start of the year to 71%. The 29% not yet fully licensed includes new applicants, and existing manufacturers who have undergone a change of ownership or are in the process of relocating to new premises. Only 13% are manufacturers who were issued with a conditional licence on commencement of the scheme (commonly referred to as ‘conditional licence holders’).

On 29 June 2001, a workshop for NRA authorised auditors was held to improve and ensure the consistency of GMP audits. To assist industry’s understanding of GMP, the NRA has continued to provide feedback to inquiries and in follow-up to audits. The scheme’s Liaison Committee continues to be an effective forum for discussing and clarifying issues.
As part of the NRA’s continuous improvement initiatives, a survey of Australian manufacturers was conducted in March 2001. The results of the survey will be used in 2001–2002 to target efforts, streamline operations and improve communication with stakeholders.

**Monitoring and control of HGP**

The European Union (EU) has placed strict requirements on beef imported into EU Member States. It requires continued assurance from Australia that beef and beef products have not been treated with hormonal growth promotant (HGP) products. To provide this assurance, the Commonwealth and State Governments have put in place a National HGP Monitoring and Control System.

The System enables Australian authorities to account for the importation, supply and use of HGPs. The NRA plays a significant role in the operation and management of the System by authorising importers and resellers, and requiring that accurate records of supply be kept. At years’ end, there were 157 NRA authorised suppliers.

The NRA operates a compliance audit program of authorised HGP suppliers. The frequency of audit is determined on a risk basis and includes verification or a follow-up audit to confirm implementation of major corrective actions identified during the first visit. During the year, the NRA audited 82 HGP authorised suppliers (both retailers and wholesalers). Eighty-two percent of the suppliers were found to be compliant (either on the first or follow-up visit) with 16% being issued with a warning and being subject to an increased audit frequency. Two non-compliant suppliers were investigated with a view to prosecution.

The prosecution of three HGP suppliers was finalised during the year.

**Monitoring compliance on endosulfan**

The NRA again this year conducted audits of suppliers of endosulfan products to ensure that:

- the currently approved labels are attached to products;
- information leaflets on ultra low volume (ULV) restrictions were available;
- the product was only supplied to approved users; and
- the suppliers kept appropriate records of supply.

Over one week in December 2000, NRA compliance officers conducted audits of 39 premises supplying endosulfan products and found a high level of compliance. The non-compliances that were found were primarily in relation to the displaying of notices about the use of endosulfan products, and missing label-leaflets. These non-compliances were corrected while the NRA officers were still on the premises.

**Monitoring and control of imported agricultural and veterinary chemicals**

The NRA continues to focus its efforts on the ‘import barrier’ in limiting the distribution of unregistered and unapproved chemicals in the Australian marketplace. The NRA issues ‘Consents to Import’ for unregistered and unapproved chemicals where a legitimate reason exists for a person or company to have possession of the products in Australia. Over the course of the year, the NRA assessed 134 applications of which 110 were issued ‘Consents to Import’. The primary reason for importation was for use in research trials.

In preparation for the Sydney 2000 Olympic and Paralympic Games, the NRA developed special procedures for issuing import consents to team veterinarians caring for animals competing.
Reports of non-compliance and suspected adverse experiences linked to veterinary chemical products are recorded, investigated and responded to according to risk management principles.

Reports of non-compliance

The NRA encourages industry and the public to report the advertising and supply of unregistered and unapproved chemicals or any promotion of products that is inconsistent with their approved label. All reports of non-compliance received are acknowledged and assessed (i.e. streamed) for action on the basis of risk.

The reports assessed as representing a potential or actual high risk are (depending on the quality of available evidence) dealt with by way of an investigation inquiry that may escalate to an investigation, with a view to prosecution, or product recall. Those assessed as representing a low to medium or continuing risk are dealt with mainly by way of warnings and negotiation to achieve compliance. During the year, 287 new reports were received:

- 38% were assessed as low risk;
- 42% as medium or continuing risk; and
- 20% as high risk.

A total of 258 reports were finalised during the year through warnings and negotiated compliance. Eleven were referred for processing as a product recall and four for investigation with a view to prosecution.

Investigations and recalls

During the year, the NRA initiated 10 investigations with a view to prosecution. Twenty investigations were completed during the year, with 14 being dealt with by way of a warning letter, and six by way of negotiated compliance or by being closed due to insufficient evidence to support any further action. Seven investigations were referred to the Director of Public Prosecutions for prosecution.

Seven prosecutions were completed with the following outcomes:

- Acting on several reports about the supply of unregistered products for birds and small animals, the NRA investigated Vetafarm Pty Ltd. The company was prosecuted, convicted and fined. The company successfully appealed the severity of the sentence and, while the charges remain proven, the company was placed on a two-year good behaviour bond with the penalty dismissed and no conviction recorded.
- In Western Australia, the NRA investigated 4 Farmers Pty Ltd for the importation of an unregistered agricultural chemical product. The supply involved the importation of formulated product containing triadimefon. The company and a director were prosecuted, convicted and fined $25,000.
- Neem oil and products containing neem make up a relatively large number of reports received by the NRA. Neem is often promoted as an insecticide and fungicide. In 1998 the NRA investigated several reports about distribution and supply of neem oil products on the north coast of New South Wales. As a result of the NRA investigations, Mr Joseph Friend was prosecuted, convicted and fined. The defendant appealed the decision in December 2000, which was dismissed on all grounds and he was fined $1,600.
- In late 1998, the NRA received information that a Victorian company, Ausvac Pty Ltd, was supplying HGPs without the appropriate authorisation under the Agvet Code Regulations. The NRA investigated and Bendigo OldCo (a company established to wind up the affairs of Ausvac Pty Ltd) was prosecuted, and fined $5,000 without a conviction being recorded.
- In 1999, the NRA received a report from a West Australian farmer that his lupin crop had been set back severely following the application of a herbicide labelled as containing metribuzin. Investigation by the NRA revealed that the product used also contained chlorsulfuron, a herbicide
known to adversely affect lupins. The supplier, 4 Farmers Pty Ltd, was prosecuted, convicted and fined $10,000 for supply of a product which varied from the registered particulars for the product.

After several warnings, an investigation was conducted by the NRA, which led to the prosecution of two Queensland premises of Primac Elders, one at Richmond and the other at Roma, for failure to comply with the Agvet Code Regulations for supply of HGPS. The company was prosecuted, convicted and fined $6,000.

The NRA provided assistance to industry and monitored conduct of 17 voluntary recalls that were completed during the year.

**Adverse Experience Reports**

The Adverse Experience Reporting Program (AERP) is a post-market quality assurance program for identifying corrective action necessary to ensure continued safety, quality and effectiveness of registered veterinary chemical products in Australia. Reports of potential problems or side effects associated with the use of these products are assessed to determine whether any corrective action should be taken to prevent such incidents occurring in the future.

The AERP receives voluntary adverse experience reports (directly from members of the public or veterinarians) and mandatory adverse experience reports from registrants. Registrants are required to provide the NRA with a full investigation report into each serious incident within seven working days and an annual summary of the non-serious incidents.

All voluntary and serious adverse experience reports received to date have been evaluated by the NRA and appropriate regulatory action taken. The Annual Report of Adverse Experiences 2000 was published in July 2001 and is available on the NRA’s website or directly from the NRA.

Information obtained through the AERP is used by other NRA programs, to assure that veterinary chemical products in the Australian market comply with the registration requirements and are of acceptable quality. Outcomes of the AERP have included:

- product label changes;
- publication of quarterly articles in the Australian Veterinary Journal outlining issues relevant to practising veterinarians;
- identification of improvements and changes to manufacturing and formulation processes; and
- referral for consideration of review of the product.

The ongoing success of the AERP is dependent on the continued cooperation of veterinarians, farmers and other chemical users. Improvements are being made to the program to ensure that the information provided is efficiently and effectively utilised in providing appropriate outcomes and that the program is harmonised with international practices.

**Review existing chemical products on a risk basis to ensure they meet current requirements for performance and safety.**

The NRA’s Chemical Review Program had a challenging and productive year in 2000–2001. A significant achievement was the completion of the comprehensive evaluation and review of operations and processes of the Existing Chemical Review program and the Special Review Program. The findings and recommendations of the evaluation were approved for implementation at the March 2001 meeting of the NRA Board.

The outcome of the evaluation will see the program restructured and redesigned to improve its overall flexibility and effectiveness. The new program will be more responsive to urgent issues, more efficient in the use of resources, better coordinated with international regulatory activities and better able to communicate review outcomes.

Over the course of the year, a number of complex chemical reviews were progressed. Four reviews were completed to the interim or final stage, with a further two completed to the draft report stage and released for public consultation (see Table 2).
In particular, the review identified that some formulations currently available to householders (for home garden and residential uses) could pose an unacceptable health and safety risk. Accordingly, the NRA cancelled products with concentrations greater than 5% for home garden use and employed specific instructions on labels to prevent broadcast spraying indoors.

**Chlorfenvinphos Review**

The review of chlorfenvinphos was completed to the interim stage in December 2000. Chlorfenvinphos is an organophosphate insecticide, widely used in Australia for over three decades to control ticks and buffalo fly on cattle and blowflies on sheep. It is also used to a lesser extent in agriculture to control various insect pests, in mushroom, potato, lucerne and pasture crops.

The review found the use of concentrated chlorfenvinphos sheep jetting products posed an unacceptable risk to workers therefore these uses were cancelled. Agricultural use posed sufficient risk to the environment to require the NRA to seek further data from registrants to support its continued use. Data was not forthcoming and registration of agricultural chemical products was cancelled.

The review of chlorfenvinphos remains at the interim stage while data is generated on worker exposure from the use of chlorfenvinphos on cattle as an overspray, and storage stability data. The future registration of chlorfenvinphos will be assessed when this data becomes available.

**Aldicarb Review**

The NRA finalised the review of aldicarb in June 2001. Aldicarb is an insecticide widely used in the cotton industry and to a lesser extent in citrus and sugarcane production for the control of insect pests. Although a highly toxic chemical, its unique formulation, packaging and use arrangements satisfied the NRA that it would not be a hazard to the environment, worker safety or public health.

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**TABLE 2: Chemical reviews completed or released for public comment in 2000–2001**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chemical review</th>
<th>Stage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Diazinon</td>
<td>Draft for public release – September 2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pindone</td>
<td>Draft for public release – June 2001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chlorpyrifos</td>
<td>Complete – Interim phase (1) – September 2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chlorfenvinphos</td>
<td>Complete – Interim phase (1) – December 2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sulphonamides</td>
<td>Complete – August 2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aldicarb</td>
<td>Complete – March 2001</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: (1) Risk-mitigating factors introduced while additional data is being generated. Registration to continue until results are evaluated.
All aldicarb product registrations were made subject to the condition that the products were only to be made available in a certain type of packaging to maintain worker safety and that modifications to product labels were to be made.

**Endosulfan Review**

The review of endosulfan was completed to the reporting stage in August 1998 with further restrictions made in 1999. Ongoing concern over residues in cattle from spray drift necessitated substantial regulatory activity during the year. The NRA followed the spray drift issue closely, and in July 2000 suspended all ULV endosulfan products, allowing its restricted use during the 2000 season. In March 2001, the NRA again examined ULV endosulfan products and decided that their use unduly prejudiced Australia's international trade in animal commodities. As a result, the NRA cancelled all ULV endosulfan products, recalling all existing stocks and banning any further use. Growers who previously used ULV endosulfan will still be able to use the EC formulation of endosulfan.

**Other major achievements.**

**International Cooperation**

The NRA continued to exchange assessment reports with overseas regulatory agencies as part of work sharing opportunities. This provides greater efficiency and also the opportunity to enhance the organisations' scientific capabilities. All assessment reports arising from the Chemical Review Program are now placed on the NRA's website so that both the general public and other agencies can have immediate access.

The NRA continued to participate in programs of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) aimed at international harmonisation of pesticide registration requirements and the promotion of international cooperation in a range of regulatory activities. Through these efforts, the NRA has been able to accept OECD guidelines for the development of an international format for pesticide submissions that now allows industry the opportunity to present the same submission in all OECD countries.

The NRA has also had a strong input to the work of the International Committee for Harmonisation of Veterinary Drug Registration Requirements (VICH) that is establishing international guidelines for the assessment and regulation of veterinary drugs. Specific areas of interest have included antibiotics, food safety, ecotoxicity, biologicals and anthelmintics. In all these areas, the specific views and needs of Australia have been taken into account.

**Safe use of chemicals on farms report**

Over the past two years, the NRA has worked with the National Occupational Health and Safety Commission (NOHSC), to facilitate the adoption of the Hazardous Substances Regulatory Package by farmers. At the same time, it is seeking to minimise unnecessary burden on the rural community. Because many farm chemicals fit the description of a hazardous substance, farmers need to be aware of and meet the Hazardous Substances requirements.

Using funding provided by NOHSC, a firm of consultants prepared a draft report comparing the NRA assessment and labelling process and state-based control of use requirements with the requirements of the Hazardous Substances Regulatory Package. They made a number of recommendations to enhance the NRA assessment and labelling process, and farm chemicals user courses, to help farmers meet their requirements. In addition, they prepared guidance material for farmers, explaining their obligations and how they might meet them. Training materials were also developed to help ChemCert and other training providers ensure that course participants develop the necessary competencies required to meet Hazardous Substances Regulatory requirements.

The final draft of the consultants’ report was submitted to the NOHSC Chemical Standards Subcommittee in April 2001 and the NOHSC Prevention Committee in May 2001. These committees have returned the
Export facilitation – GMP

Australian based manufacturers exporting agricultural or veterinary chemicals must comply with requirements imposed by the destination country. The extent to which those requirements are additional will vary, depending on the extent to which that country recognises the National Registration Scheme and MLS. The requirements, based on decreasing order of recognition are:

- knowledge that the products are freely and legally supplied in Australia;
- formal attestation of registration and, in the case of veterinary chemical products, of GMP compliance, by way of a ‘Certificate of Export and Manufacture (approved GMP)’; and
- in the case of veterinary chemical products
  - ‘Certificate of GMP Manufacturer’ issued under the provisions of Mutual Recognition Agreements (MRAs), or
  - audits by countries’ own authorised auditors and/or product testing on arrival in the country.

The NRA issues on request ‘Certificates of Export and Manufacture (approved GMP)’ to Australian based manufacturers who are licensed under the MLS and want to export veterinary chemical products. The certificate confirms that the manufacturer of the exported product is licensed by the NRA and is inspected regularly for compliance with the relevant Australian Code of GMP.

During the year, 15 ‘Certificates of Export and Manufacture (approved GMP)’ were issued, with four issued for multiple countries. Although the country of destination is not always specified, such certificates are recognised by a number of South East Asian and Middle East countries, including Taiwan, Korea, Singapore, Malaysia, the Philippines, Indonesia, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia.

These certificates are not recognised by most European countries. To facilitate exports to these countries, Australia has entered into treaty level agreements (called mutual recognition agreements MRA’s) on conformity assessment with the European Union (EU) and the European Free Trade Association (EFTA). The Department of Industry, Science and Technology, on behalf of the Commonwealth, is negotiating a similar agreement with Switzerland.

During the year, NRA participated in a number of confidence-building exercises with counterpart representatives from the EU, as part of the transitional phase of the Sectoral Annex of the EU-MRA covering veterinary medicinal products. The exercises included comparisons of legislative and regulatory requirements and observation of GMP audits.

The arrangements for conformity assessment, as detailed in the MRA, were assessed as being equivalent. At the MRA Joint Committee in Brussels on 14 June 2001, it was agreed that the operational phase of the EU-MRA could commence on 1 July 2001.

It should be noted that the terms of the EU-MRA and EFTA-MRA were negotiated at a time when the MLS was in its infancy. As a consequence, the MRA arrangements require that the ‘Certificate of GMP Compliance of a Manufacturer’ be issued by the NRA (having the legal jurisdiction for veterinary chemical products), for audits that must be performed by the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) against the TGA Code of GMP for human medicinal products or the relevant GMP Code of the importing country (where the former does not cover the particular product).

No ‘Certificate of GMP Compliance of a Manufacturer’ was issued in 2000–2001.

Export facilitation – EU audit of the HGP Monitoring and Control System

The European Commission continued its examination of Australia’s National HGP Monitoring and Control System, with a review in November 2000. The EU officials found that the System was sufficiently compliant with EU requirements for
continuation of export of Australian meat and meat products to the EU.

The EU review addressed not only HGPs but also the regulation and control mechanisms applicable to all veterinary chemical products in the context of chemical residues. The officials requested and were given significant amounts of information about Australia’s system but have indicated that a more thorough audit will be required within the next year.

**2000 Olympic and Para Olympic Games – facilitating importation of drugs for competing animals**

In the lead up to the Sydney 2000 Games, concerns were identified about the potential for veterinary chemical products entering Australia that were unregistered and which could be diverted into the illegal drug trade. In conjunction with the Australian Customs Service and the Sydney Organising Committee for the Olympic Games (SOCOG), the NRA developed a procedure for declaring and clearing the importation of animal remedies for use in competition animals.

The NRA issued 48 consents for importation of veterinary chemicals from 21 countries and provided 24-hour on-call assistance to the Australian Customs Service, which cleared the imported chemicals as they arrived in Australia.

**Recall Guidelines**

In consultation with the agricultural and veterinary chemicals industry, the NRA has revised and published Recall Guidelines for agricultural and veterinary chemicals. These guidelines further enhance the NRA’s attempt to facilitate voluntary compliance, and to encourage businesses to undertake recall of deficient product rather than wait for the NRA to take compliance actions.

The Guidelines provide a basis for the development of companies’ own procedures for product recall and advise on determining the type and extent of a recall, who to contact and when, the information required by the NRA, how to advertise and where, and how to report on a recall.

**TGA MOU**

The NRA has executed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the TGA on auditing manufacturers of veterinary products. The primary purpose is to reduce the regulatory burden on manufacturers of both veterinary and human medicinal products. The MOU will make it easier for such manufacturers to use their TGA audit as evidence in support of licensing under the NRA’s MLS.

Manufacturers of both veterinary and human medicinal products may now nominate to have all their veterinary operations (including those operations that are separate to and/or are outside the scope of their TGA licence) included in their TGA audit. In some cases, there may be additional charges imposed by TGA but the MOU arrangements should provide for cost efficiencies for the manufacturers.

**Customs MOU**

The NRA and the Australian Customs Service have executed an MOU that allows for the exchange of information for use in the investigation of alleged breaches involving chemical products. The MOU establishes a vital element in the NRA’s strategy to focus compliance action at the import barrier and thereby limit non-compliance downstream in the supply chain.

**HGP reseller training in WA**

The NRA continued its training program for HGP suppliers, which started in the eastern States in 1999–2000. This year, two training sessions were conducted in Western Australia. The sessions covered the legislative provisions governing the supply of HGPs, and the correct procedures for keeping records for different types of supply such as export, product return and disposal.
The NRA’s industry customers, chemical users and other stakeholders are aware of NRA’s role and its programs.

Communication activities
During 2000–2001, the NRA continued to deliver a range of effective communication activities to support the work of major program areas and contribute to the realisation of NRA goals.

A major market research project was undertaken with key NRA stakeholders. The aim of the research was to gauge stakeholder awareness and attitudes towards the NRA and its role and functions. Based on the finding of the market research, the NRA developed a new communication strategy. The strategy seeks to build on previous communication activities and to:

- increase public awareness and confidence in the NRA through effective issues management;
- raise awareness in the broader community, and with those involved in primary industries, of the NRA’s role and activities;
- encourage applicants, registrants, retailers and users to understand and comply with the Agvet Code.

Rural awareness program
Among its communication activities, the NRA undertook to visit a number of rural centres over the course of the communication strategy 2001–2003. The goal for the program is to:

- raise community and farmers’ awareness of how NRA programs impact on them;
- inform farmers how they can influence NRA programs, as by applying for minor use permits;
- encourage the community and farmers to use chemical products correctly, complying with the Agvet Code; and
- build confidence in the work of the NRA.

In June 2001, the NRA trialled the program at Farmfest held in Toowoomba, Queensland. Over three days, NRA staff discussed issues of concern with local farmers and members of the community. Issues raised were the permits scheme (types of permits and how to obtain a minor use permit), training and accreditation, timeframes for registering chemicals, cost and effectiveness of chemicals, and adverse experiences.

Responding to inquiries
The NRA responds to the needs of stakeholders by providing a range of information and services in a prompt and efficient manner. Over the course of the year, the NRA received and responded to a steady stream of requests for information on a variety of chemical issues from stakeholders, including industry and members of the public.

In addition, the NRA responded to a range of media inquiries. These ranged from simple requests for information on products registered, through to in-depth questions on specific chemicals such as endosulfan and chlorpyrifos. The majority of media inquiries centred on the findings and recommendations of the Chemical Review Program.
NRA's operations are consistent with government and legislative requirements.

Corporate planning and reporting documents

**ANNUAL REPORT**

The 2000–2001 annual report details NRA performance against each of the key outputs and performance indicators contained in the 2000–2001 Portfolio Budget Statements (PBS). In brief, the four key outputs in the PBS were registration, compliance, business management and our people.


**CORPORATE PLANNING DOCUMENTS**

To align the due dates of the NRA's corporate, operational, and human resource development plans, the NRA sought a one month extension for the presentation of its corporate plan. This extension was granted and all plans were presented by 1 June 2000.

During 2000–2001, the NRA made only minor amendments to its three-year corporate plan, for the year 2001–2002. The human resource development plan was revised, the new plan seeking to enhance the people management and development structures put in place by the previous plan.

An operational plan for 2000–2001 was developed to put in place actions that align with the PBS outputs and performance indicators.

**NRA Gazette**

The work involved in the publication of the NRA Gazette rose steadily, as the number of notices per edition increased, with the NRA's general strategy to be open and transparent. The gazette is a significant vehicle for regulatory notifications such as NRA notices, decisions, reviews and changes to registration status required by the Agvet Code. It is published monthly and is free of charge to registrants and via download from the NRA website. Copies are also available from AusInfo shops.

**The NRA Board**

The NRA Board met six times in the year. In accordance with the Board’s policy of meeting the NRA's stakeholders in the field, three meetings were held outside Canberra – Kununurra and Darwin (August 2000), East Gippsland (October 2000) and Brisbane and Toowoomba (June 2001). The regional meetings included visits to intensive horticulture, dairying and cropping enterprises and yielded feedback about regulatory issues from informal discussions with peak industry bodies, rural producers, veterinarians and the chemical industry.

Key matters considered by the Board during the year included:

- annual budget, corporate and operational planning;
- program monitoring and performance measurement;
- management reviews of the Chemical Review, Permits and Manufacturer's Licensing Programs;
- amendments to the agvet legislation and delegations;
- preparations for the introduction of data protection;
- renegotiation of the employees’ Certified Agreement;
- the chemical reviews of chlorpyrifos, diazinon, chlorfenvinphos, sulphonamides, endosulfan, fenitrothion, mevinphos, aldicarb and pindone;
- selection of chemicals for review;
- issues arising from National Competition Policy, National Strategy for Management of AgVet Chemicals and Regulatory Reform initiatives;
- introduction of electronic commerce facilities; and
- NRA communication strategies.

Further details on the NRA Board are provided at Appendix A.
Within the NRA’s Quality System, team performance and productivity are improved.

The NRA is an ISO 9002 compliant organisation. That is, its quality System is certified as complying with the requirements of the internationally recognised standard AS/NZS ISO 9002 – 1994. The system is under continual review via internal and external audit programs. SGS International carried out the last external audit in November 2000. The audit confirmed that the NRA quality system is active, maintained and conforms to the requirements set out for AS/NZS ISO 9002 – 1994.

The NRA quality system is a live and active system in which all levels of staff participate. This ensures the continual development of processes to achieve greater levels of efficiency and effectiveness. The quality system also projects to NRA applicants, stakeholders, and to Broader Community the NRA’s high level of professionalism and consistency of approach.

As part of the NRA’s policy of continual development staff has undergone a formal training program to be formally accredited as internal auditors. This will help ensure the NRA remains abreast of all the latest developments incorporated in the revision of the International Standard to the AS/NZS ISO 9000 – 2000 series.

During 2000–2001 the NRA started preparations for the move from AS/NZS ISO 9002 – 1994 to the revised AS/NZS ISO 9000 – 2000 quality system. The introduction and implementation of the new requirements is progressing in concert with refinements to NRA processes controlled within the framework of the International Standard.

The NRA quality system is closely monitored through the Management Review Committee (MRC), which is chaired by the CEO and comprises executive staff and all section managers. MRC meets on a monthly basis and monitors the NRA’s productivity at both the individual section level and on a total organisational basis. The committee addresses cross sectional issues and directs responsibility for action and report of outcomes. Teamwork and communication between sections (teams) is also continually maintained through the establishment of interface meetings and staff briefings. The effectiveness of this program is examined through our internal audit process.

The NRA quality system has now been formally recognised and certified for five years. In reaching this milestone, the NRA system has now reached a stage of maturity whereby the staff ethic is now to continually look at their functions and at the wider NRA processes, suggesting where improvements can be made in the system that will increase efficiency and effectiveness of the NRA Corporate function.

Other Major Achievements

Goods and Services Tax (GST) Implementation

The Goods and Services Tax commenced on 1 July 2000. A New Tax System (Goods and Services) Act 1999 (ANTS) provides that the Commonwealth is subject to the GST. As part of this process the NRA modified its Financial Management Information System to accommodate these requirements ensuring compliance with ANTS. The Authority met all requirements, as a result experienced no difficulties with the introduction of the GST.

NRA website – http://www.nra.gov.au

The NRA website is a valuable tool for the dissemination of agvet chemical information. The number of people accessing the website has increased steadily. In November 2000, the NRA undertook to redevelop its website. In June 2001, the redesigned website was launched with significant changes made to improve the overall appearance, refine the structure, and improve the functionality to make information more accessible.
**Project management**

In late 2000, a comprehensive review of the NRA’s information technology and information management systems was completed. One outcome of this review was that project management was not being performed with a standard project management methodology and projects were not fully aligned with the goals and objectives or the organisation. The review highlighted poor initiation of projects, with business cases and project aims not being clearly identified and a lack of coordination across the organisation.

To address these deficiencies the NRA initiated, in January 2001, the development of the concepts, methodology and tools of project management for inclusion in the organisation’s Quality System. By July 2001, a standard project management methodology was developed and in use. The procedures and documentation are designed to provide consistent project planning, to integrate across multiple projects, and to minimise the risk of project failure.

It is envisaged that the use of the standard documentation and procedures will eliminate the duplication of effort and, over time, a repository of information will assist in developing new projects. In developing the procedures, a reporting regime was also included for more detailed tracking of project progress. As part of the NRA’s Quality System, the project management procedures will be monitored and improved continuously.

**NRA Records Management**

In 2000/01 the NRA, under the guidance of the National Archives of Australia (NAA), commenced a thorough review of NRA record keeping practices. The comprehensive review uses the NAA modified DIRKS methodology (Designing and Implementing a Record Keeping System) and AS 4390-1996 to identify the NRA’s core business functions, activities and the associated requirements to create records of transactions as evidence of business activity. Several stakeholder groups were consulted on their interests in NRA’s records with other groups to be consulted in 2001/02. The highly regulated nature of NRA activities has significant implications for record keeping.

Through the year the NRA successfully completed Stage 1 and made substantial progress on Stage 2 of DIRKS. 2001/2 will see the NRA undertake Stage 3 including risk assessments of disposal actions and make recommendations for retention periods. The NAA currently requires the NRA to retain core business records for 75 years. At the conclusion of Stage 3 NAA will either endorse this current timespan or issue revised requirements.

**Information Technology**

Substantial effort was made over the year to develop the NRA’s Information Technology (IT) systems and sub-systems. In October 2000 an Information Technology / Information Management Strategic Plan was completed. The Plan was based on a most comprehensive review of the NRA’s many IT systems and subsystems performed to-date.

The objectives of the IT Strategic Plan were to:

- Define and review the existing IT architecture, systems and sub-systems;
- Critically review their strategic development;
- Align the existing information technology strategies against both strategic industry initiatives and the strategic goals of the NRA;
- Examine the cost effectiveness of enhancing the NRA’s IT systems and fostering continual improvement throughout the organisation; and
- Provide an action plan to guide IT development for the next 2 years.
Five broad themes were identified. These are outlined below:

**System and Sub-system Integration** – Like many organisations the NRA utilises a number of disparate systems each with their own databases and presentation applications. These applications are not well integrated making the exchange of information between systems problematic. The Strategic Plan recommends the deployment of Business Intelligence software (BI) to allow data from disparate databases to be combined. Additionally, the Strategic Plan recommends a review of new application development environments such as Java to assess their potential to address these problems.

**Knowledge Management** – The NRA is an organisation in which highly technical knowledge is a key asset. The organisation’s performance depends on effectively developing, using and sharing this knowledge. The Strategic Plan identifies enabling technologies and processes to improve the way the NRA manages documents and scientific data, captures and stores information, accesses and disseminates information and provides technical information to industry and the public.

**Project Management** – The Strategic Plan identified that project management could be improved across the NRA through the use of standard project management techniques and methodologies. To address this issue a dedicated Project Management Office has been established to oversee the completion of the many IT projects the NRA undertakes each year. The project documentation has been integrated into the established ISO 9002 quality management system.

**Outsourcing** – For many years a number of the NRA’s databases including its public web site and Internet conductivity have been hosted by AFFA. On 1 July 2000 AFFA joined Cluster 8 outsourcing many of their IT services to IPEX Pty Ltd. The IT Strategic Plan recommends a number of strategies to address the issues associated with this decision. Broadly, the Strategic Plan recommends a move to a more independent IT infrastructure.

**E-Commerce / Government On-Line** – In accordance with the ‘Government On-line’ initiative the Strategic Plan establishes clear strategies to embrace e-commerce and associated e-business systems. These include better ways of doing business with Industry, suppliers and clients, including electronic payment mechanisms, web-based client service delivery and seamless integration with internal business applications.

**Major IT Developments in 2000/2001**

Some of the major IT developments include:

- The replacement of the existing disparate PC fleet with a standard homogeneous fleet including a standard “image” (OS and software applications), that will allow the administration of software applications across the entire fleet to be undertaken centrally by IT staff;
- Implementation of an NRA-wide IT project office;
- The migration of the national chemical public database to a new provider;
- The migration of the complete national chemical database “in-house”;
- The migration of Internet conductivity from the existing SGE to an in-house solution utilising a commercial firewall product and high-speed optic fibre connection to a commercial Internet Service Provider (ISP);
- The migration of the NRA’s external website from AFFA to a hosted service by a commercial provider;
- The deployment of a modern, intuitive Business Intelligence tool, allowing extraction of structured data from any corporate database with report / graphical display over a web browser;
- The redesign and enhance functionality of the public website to include advanced database searches;
- The trial of an Internet based levy e-payments option for industry; and
- Electronic payments and issue of a remittance advice to suppliers.
Negotiate, agree and implement the NRA’s third Certified Agreement

A significant proportion of 2000–2001 was dedicated to the development, negotiation and finalisation of the NRA’s Certified Agreement 2001–2004.

A collaborative, participative approach was taken to develop the Certified Agreement. This involved staff elected representatives, union representation and management representatives working together to develop the Agreement. The Certified Agreement further consolidated the NRA’s terms and conditions of employment. The main features of the Agreement included:

- a 12% salary increase delivered over a three-year period;
- more flexible personal leave arrangements;
- an enhanced Study Encouragement Scheme;
- a revised Performance Management Scheme; and
- the establishment of an NRA Staff Consultative Committee.

The collaborative approach undertaken resulted in the Agreement being accepted by the majority of staff (90% yes vote being returned) and finalised on 24 May 2001.

Management Practices define key corporate processes

The NRA already has a number of Management Practices in place, which define the key corporate processes. To ensure that these Management Practices are consistent with the new Certified Agreement, a Management Practice review program was developed and will continue throughout the new financial year.

Work also began on the development of new Management Practices where they relate to the implementation of the Certified Agreement. This will ensure that the NRA’s key corporate processes are clearly defined and readily available to all employees and managers. The Employee Services Team (EST) will also provide regular briefings and where necessary appropriate training, as part of the implementation process for all new Management Practices.

Upgrade performance, training and selection processes

One of the new initiatives of the Certified Agreement was the introduction of a new Performance Management Scheme. The aim of the new Scheme is to provide a framework for managing individual performance and a clear link between individual performance and organisational priorities.

The Scheme recognises that managers and employees have a joint responsibility to ensure that an effective level of performance is achieved.
The NRA continues its strong commitment to training and has further enhanced access to training through expansion of the existing Study Encouragement Scheme, a review of the Training Diary and Point Scheme and access to management and leadership training.

**Other achievements**

**NRA People Plan**

During the past year, a comprehensive review of the NRA People Plan was undertaken. The NRA’s People Plan 2001–2003 seeks to enhance the people management and development structures put in place by the previous Plan. The focus of the 2001–2003 People Plan will include implementation of the initiatives arising out of the new NRA Certified Agreement 2001–2004, and further development of our policies with a focus on outcomes identified from our Staff Attitude Survey.
Social Justice, Equity and External Security
Consultation in NRA processes and decision-making

Communication and consultation with stakeholders involved in the National Registration Scheme is a high priority for the NRA. Involvement by industry, government and community stakeholders in NRA development and decision-making occurs in four ways:

- consultative committees
- public consultation
- publication of decisions
- access to management and staff.

The consultative committees are important conduits used by the NRA to exchange information on issues relating to agvet chemicals. The scope, membership and key issues dealt with by these committees are described at Appendix D.

Public consultation

When the NRA proposes to register a new chemical product with a new active ingredient, or to extend the use of an existing product from a non-food commodity to a food, or animal feed, public consultation occurs before final decisions are made.

The NRA prepares a public release summary outlining new products with new actives. These are freely available as the basis for comment. The summaries include the outcome of the assessment and the conditions the NRA proposes for the use of the product.

The NRA issues trade advice notes, where a proposed registration or a change in registration conditions has the potential to impact on Australia’s trade. The advice note is distributed to farm and commodity organisations seeking comment.

The Chemical Review Program consults widely with a number of stakeholders throughout the review process. A significant amount of time is made available for public and industry consultation. Specific invitations for comment are made at the beginning of a review and when the draft regulatory approach has been developed.

When a review is announced, the NRA invites the public, chemical users or any interested parties to make submissions on any aspect of the chemical, including performance, use practices, and any adverse effects. A public consultation period is also undertaken, whereby the draft review reports is released for comment. This takes place before the NRA makes a final regulatory decision. The release of these draft reports is communicated through a number of communication channels, including media releases, gazette notices, NRA News, the NRA’s website and by direct mail. Final reports are also available publicly on the NRA’s website.

In addition the NRA, as part of the Service Charter, keep a feedback register of all positive or negative comments on NRA services.

Publication of decisions

The NRA Gazette lists NRA notices and decisions, including registrations, reviews and changes to registration status. It is published monthly and is free of charge to registrants and via download from the NRA website. Copies are also available from AusInfo shops.

Access to management and staff

NRA executives, managers and staff are accessible to industry customers and other stakeholders. Each operational area of the NRA has a designated contact officer who responds to inquiries. Details of contact officers are published regularly in the NRA News and distributed via consultative committees and industry gatherings.
Workplace Diversity at the NRA

The NRA’s staff selection processes emphasise merit and equality of opportunity for all applicants. The NRA’s Recruitment Management Practice provides guidelines to all staff on recruitment expectations, and also ensures consistency in the selection process.

The NRA actively seeks participation of Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) groups on all its consultative committees and selection panels. The NRA’s EEO staffing profile is provided at Appendix F.

Ombudsman

The Ombudsman made inquiries regarding the handling of an FOI request by the NRA, which was resolved satisfactorily in consultation with the Ombudsman.

Parliamentary committees and other reviews

During 2000–2001, the NRA participated in and made submissions to two parliamentary inquiries into matters that concerned the NRA:

• The Productivity Commission Review of Cost Recovery by Commonwealth Agencies.
• The Department of Health and Aged Care Review of Public Health and Safety Regulatory Arrangements.

Privacy

The NRA adheres to the Information Privacy Principles as set out in the Privacy Act 1998. The NRA’s operations were not subject to any report or determination by the Privacy Commissioner.

The NRA has an entry in the current edition of the Privacy Commissioner’s Personal Information Digest.

Auditor-General’s reports

There were no reports by the Auditor-General on the operations of the NRA during the reporting period.

Ministerial directions


Courts and tribunals

Two proceedings were commenced against the NRA in 2000–2001. Neither has been resolved. The first matter was commenced at the Administrative Appeals Tribunal by an FOI applicant seeking a review of the NRA’s decision not to provide her with full access to the documents sought. The second concerns a refusal to vary label instructions facilitating a reduced withholding period.
Finance Statements
INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT

To the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Scope

I have audited the financial statements of the National Registration Authority for Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals for the year ended 30 June 2001. The financial statements comprise:

- Statement by Directors;
- Statement of Financial Performance;
- Statement of Financial Position;
- Statement of Cash Flows;
- Schedule of Commitments;
- Schedule of Contingencies, and
- Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements.

The members of the Board are responsible for the preparation and presentation of the financial statements and the information they contain. I have conducted an independent audit of the financial statements in order to express an opinion on them to you.

The audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian National Audit Office Auditing Standards, which incorporate the Australian Auditing Standards, to provide reasonable assurance as to whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. Audit procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial statements, and the evaluation of accounting policies and significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion as to whether, in all material respects, the financial statements are presented fairly in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, other mandatory professional reporting requirements and statutory requirements in Australia so as to present a view of the entity which is consistent with my understanding of its financial position, the results of its operations and its cash flows.
The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

Audit Opinion

In my opinion,

(i) the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Schedule 1 of the Commonwealth Authorities and Companies (Financial Statements 2000-2001) Orders; and

(ii) the financial statements give a true and fair view, in accordance with applicable Accounting Standards, other mandatory professional reporting requirements and Schedule 1 of the Commonwealth Authorities and Companies (Financial Statements 2000-2001) Orders, of the financial position of the National Registration Authority for Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals as at 30 June 2001 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended.

Australian National Audit Office

[Signature]

Darren Box
Executive Director

Delegate of the Auditor-General

Canberra

27 August 2001
National Registration Authority
for Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals

Statement by Directors

In our opinion, the attached financial statements give a true and fair view of the matters required by Schedule 1 of the Commonwealth Authorities and Companies (Financial Statements 2000-01) Orders for the year ended 30 June 2001.

Signed

Dr John S Keniry
Chairperson

24 August 2001

Signed

Mr Peter Bailey
Director

24th August 2001
National Registration Authority  
for Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals

Statement of Financial Performance  
for the year ended 30 June 2001

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Operating Revenues</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revenue from Government</td>
<td>3(a) 108,000</td>
<td>108,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales of Goods and Services</td>
<td>3(b) 5,571</td>
<td>40,385</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest Received</td>
<td>3(c) 896,166</td>
<td>635,490</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proceeds from Disposal of Assets</td>
<td>3(d) 49,072</td>
<td>2,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industry Contributions</td>
<td>3(e) 17,478,418</td>
<td>17,585,453</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Revenue</td>
<td>222,895</td>
<td>167,887</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Operating Revenues</strong></td>
<td>18,760,122</td>
<td>18,539,415</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **Operating Expenses** |        |        |
| Employees | 4(a) 9,382,479 | 8,561,396 |
| Suppliers | 4(b) 7,442,494 | 7,192,058 |
| Depreciation and Amortisation | 4(c) 573,089 | 469,534 |
| Disposal of Assets | 3(d) 319,309 | 1,565 |
| **Total Operating Expenses** | 17,717,371 | 16,224,553 |

Net Surplus | 1,042,751 | 2,314,862 |

**Total revenues, expenses and valuation adjustments recognised directly in equity** |        |        |

**Total changes in equity other than those resulting from transactions with owners as owners** | 1,042,751 | 2,314,862 |

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.
National Registration Authority
for Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals

Statement of Financial Position
as at 30 June 2001

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ASSETS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Assets</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash</td>
<td>5(a)</td>
<td>6,088,283</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>5(a)</td>
<td>10,447,888</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receivables</td>
<td>5(b)</td>
<td>505,953</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Financial Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-financial Assets</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infrastructure, Plant and Equipment</td>
<td>6(a)</td>
<td>1,431,222</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intangibles</td>
<td>6(c)</td>
<td>596,391</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>6(d)</td>
<td>54,157</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Non-financial Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LIABILITIES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provisions</td>
<td>7(a)</td>
<td>1,905,115</td>
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<tr>
<td>Payables</td>
<td>7(b)</td>
<td>7,710,920</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>EQUITY</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Reserves</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4,900,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accumulated Surplus</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4,607,839</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Equity</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities and Equity</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.
National Registration Authority
for Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals

Statement of Cash Flows
for the year ended 30 June 2001

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**OPERATING ACTIVITIES**

Cash Received
- Appropriations                     -       108,000
- Sales of Goods and Services       6,128   40,385
- Interest Received                 931,437  610,264
- Industry Contributions            18,253,225 19,326,085
- GST Recovered from Taxation Authority 471,954  
- Other                             230,278  139,195

**Total Cash Received**
19,893,022  20,223,929

Cash Used
- Employees                         (9,104,124) (8,362,739)
- Suppliers                         (6,832,457) (6,534,862)

**Total Cash Used**
(15,936,581) (14,897,601)

**Net Cash from Operating Activities**

9  3,956,441  5,326,328

**INVESTING ACTIVITIES**

Cash Received
- Proceeds from Sales of Property, Plant and Equipment 49,072  12,756

**Total Cash Received**
49,072  12,756

Cash Used
- Purchase of Commercial Bills (10,447,868)  
- Payments for Property, Plant and Equipment (810,990) (798,720)

**Total Cash Used**
(11,258,858) (798,270)

**Net Cash Used in Investing Activities**

(11,209,786) (785,514)

**Net (Decrease)/Increase in Cash Held**

(7,253,345)  4,540,814

Cash at Beginning of Reporting Period
13,341,628  8,800,814

**Cash at End of Reporting Period**

6,088,283  13,341,628

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.
National Registration Authority  
for Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals  

Schedule of Commitments  
as at 30 June 2001

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**BY TYPE**

**OTHER COMMITMENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Operating Leases</td>
<td>3,757,722</td>
<td>3,346,375</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Commitments</td>
<td>119,055</td>
<td>153,291</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Other Commitments</strong></td>
<td>3,876,777</td>
<td>3,499,666</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GST Receivable</td>
<td>(352,434)</td>
<td>(306,386)</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Net Commitments</td>
<td>3,524,343</td>
<td>3,153,280</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**BY MATURITY**

**All Net Commitments**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>One year or less</td>
<td>949,313</td>
<td>682,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From one to five years</td>
<td>2,575,030</td>
<td>2,079,260</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over five years</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>431,420</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Commitments</strong></td>
<td>3,524,343</td>
<td>3,193,280</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Operating Lease Commitments**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>One year or less</td>
<td>925,189</td>
<td>584,627</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From one to five years</td>
<td>2,832,533</td>
<td>2,287,186</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over five years</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>474,562</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Operating Lease Commitments</strong></td>
<td>3,757,722</td>
<td>3,346,375</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NB:** Commitments are GST inclusive where relevant.

1. Operating leases are effectively non-cancellable and comprise:
   - leases for office accommodation.
   - leases for motor vehicles used for general business activities.
   - leases in relation to computer equipment.

2. As at 30 June 2001, other commitments comprise amounts under agreements in respect of which the recipient is yet to perform the services required.
National Registration Authority  
for Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals  

Schedule of Commitments (continued)  
for the year ended 30 June 2001

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nature of the Lease</th>
<th>General description of the leasing arrangement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Leases for office accommodation     | Lease 1: Salvation Army House, Brisbane Avenue, Barton  
- Lease payments are subject to an annual increase in accordance with upwards movements in the CPI. However a market review will be performed at the end of the third year if the option to renew is exercised.  
Lease 2: John Curtin House, Brisbane Avenue, Barton  
- In 2002 a market rent review will be performed (capped at 5%). In addition, in 2004 & 2005 there will be an increase of 4% each year. If the option to renew is exercised the rent is to be calculated at $317 per square metre. |
| Lease in relation to computer equipment | - The lessor provides all computer equipment as designated in the supply contract for 3 years. The Authority may vary the originally designated requirement subject to incurring a penalty. |
| Motor Vehicles                      | - The lease periods are 18 months or 40,000 kms and 24 months or 40,000 kms.  
- Subject to 30 days prior written notice, the Authority may return the leased vehicles to the lessor at any time during the term of the lease, however an early return fee will apply.  
- The Authority may request an extension of the lease term for a period of up to 3 months from its originally specified expiry date. |

The above schedule should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.
National Registration Authority
for Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals

Schedule of Contingencies
as at 30 June 2001

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONTINGENT LOSSES</td>
<td>NIL</td>
<td>NIL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONTINGENT GAINS</td>
<td>NIL</td>
<td>NIL</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The above schedule should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.
National Registration Authority
for Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals

Notes to and forming part of the
Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2001

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

1.1 Basis of Accounting

The financial statements are required by clause 1(b) of Schedule 1 to the Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997 and are a general purpose financial report.

The statements have been prepared in accordance with:
• Schedule 1 of the Commonwealth Authorities and Companies (CAC) Orders;
• Australian Accounting Standards and Accounting Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Boards;
• Other authoritative pronouncements of the Boards; and
• Consensus Views of the Urgent Issues Group.

These statements have been prepared having regard to:
• Statements of Accounting Concepts;
• The Explanatory Notes to Schedule 1 issued by the Department of Finance and Administration; and
• Guidance Notes issued by that Department.

The financial statements have been prepared on an accrual basis and are in accordance with the historical cost convention. Except where stated, no allowance is made for the effect of changing prices on the results or the financial position of the Authority.

1.2 Reporting by Outcomes

A comparison of Budget and Actual figures by outcome specified in the Appropriation Acts relevant to the Authority is presented in Note 2. Any intra-government costs included in the figure 'net cost to Budget outcomes' are eliminated in calculating the actual budget outcome for the Government overall.

1.3 Appropriations

Revenue Appropriations

Revenues from government are revenues of the core operating activities of the Authority.

Appropriations for outputs are recognised as revenue to the extent that they have been received into the Authority's Bank account or are entitled to be received by the Authority at year end.

Industry contributions are appropriated to the Authority by the Parliament in accordance with s58 (1) of the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Act 1992.

Non-Revenue Appropriations

The Authority did not receive any capital appropriations or equity injections during the year.
National Registration Authority
for Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals

Notes to and forming part of the
Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2001

1.4 Other Revenue

Revenue from the sale of goods and services is recognised upon receipt of money and/or delivery of goods to customers, whichever is the most appropriate.

Interest revenue is recognised on a proportional basis taking into account the interest rates applicable to the financial assets.

Revenue from the disposal of non-current assets is recognised when control of the asset has been passed to the buyer.

Revenue from the fees and charges contributed by industry is recognised during the period to which the fee or charge relates.

Other revenue is recognised during the period to which it relates or at the time money is received.

Core Operations

All material revenues described in this note are revenues relating to the core operating activities of the Authority, whether in their own right or on behalf of the Commonwealth. Details of revenue amounts are given in Note 3.

1.5 Employee Entitlements

Leave

The liability for employee entitlements includes provision for annual leave and long service leave. No provision has been made for sick leave as all sick leave is non-vesting and the average sick leave taken in future years by employees of the Authority is estimated to be less than the annual entitlement for sick leave.

The liability for annual leave reflects the value of total annual leave entitlements of all employees at 30 June 2001 and is recognised at its nominal value.

The non-current portion of the liability for long service leave is recognised and measured at the present value of the estimated future cash flows to be made in respect of all employees at 30 June 2001. In determining the present value of the liability, attrition rates and pay increases through promotion and inflation have been taken into account.

Separation and Redundancy

Provision is also made for separation and redundancy payments in cases where positions have been formally identified as excess to requirements, and a reliable estimate of the amount payable can be determined.
Superannuation

Employees contribute to the Commonwealth Superannuation Scheme (CSS) and the Public Sector Superannuation Scheme (PSS). Employer contributions by the Authority amounting to $884,407 (1999-00: $793,418) in relation to these schemes have been expensed in the financial statements.

Temporary employees of the Authority contribute to the Australian Government Employees Superannuation Trust (AGES). Employer contributions by the Authority amounting to $18,851 (1999-00: $16,933) in relation to these schemes have been expensed in the financial statements.

No liability is shown for superannuation in the Statement of Financial Position as the employer contributions fully extinguish the accruing liability, which is assumed by the Commonwealth.

Employer Superannuation Productivity Benefit contributions by the Authority totalled $166,389 (1999:00 $151,028).

1.6 Leases

A distinction is made between finance leases which effectively transfer from the lessor to the lessee substantially all the risks and benefits incidental to ownership of leased non-current assets and operating leases under which the lessor effectively retains substantially all such risks and benefits.

Operating lease payments are expensed on a basis which is representative of the pattern of benefits derived from the leased assets.

Lease incentives taking the form of 'free' leasehold improvements and rent holidays are recognised as liabilities. These liabilities are reduced by allocating lease payments between rental expense and reduction of the liability.

1.7 Cash

Cash includes notes and coins held and any deposits held at call with a bank or financial institution.

1.8 Financial Instruments

Accounting policies in relation to Financial Instruments are stated at Note 13.

1.9 Acquisition of Assets

Assets are recorded at cost on acquisition except as stated below.
National Registration Authority
for Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals

Notes to and forming part of the
Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2001

1.10 Infrastructure, Plant and Equipment

Asset Recognition Threshold

Purchases of infrastructure, plant and equipment are recognised at cost in the Statement of Financial Position, except for purchases costing less than $2,000, which are expensed in the year of acquisition (other than when they form part of a group of similar items which are significant in total).

Revaluations

Infrastructure, plant and equipment is revalued progressively in accordance with the ‘deprival’ method of valuation in successive 3-year cycles, so that no asset has a value greater than three years old.

Assets in each class acquired after the commencement of a progressive revaluation cycle are not captured by the progressive valuation then in progress.

Any assets which would not be replaced or are surplus to requirements are valued at net realisable value.

AAS 38 ‘Revaluation of Non-Current Assets’ has been adopted early. The standard was not formalised until after 30 June 2001.

Recoverable Amount Test

The carrying amount of each item of non-current infrastructure, plant and equipment assets is reviewed to determine whether it is in excess of the asset’s recoverable amount. If an excess exists as at the reporting date, the asset is written down to its recoverable amount immediately. In assessing recoverable amounts, the relevant cash flows have been discounted to their present value.

Depreciation and Amortisation

Depreciable infrastructure, plant and equipment assets are written-off to their estimated residual values over their useful lives to the Authority using, in all cases, the straight-line method of depreciation. Leasehold improvements are amortised on a straight-line basis over the lesser of the estimated useful life of the improvements or the unexpired period of the lease.

Depreciation/amortisation rates (useful lives) are reviewed at each balance date and necessary adjustments are recognised in the current, or current and future reporting periods, as appropriate. Residual values are re-estimated for a change in prices only when assets are revalued.

The Authority’s depreciation/amortisation rates were reviewed at 30th June 2001 and adjusted as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Infrastructure, Plant and Equipment</td>
<td>5% - 33%</td>
<td>13% - 27%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The financial effect of this change in accounting policy is the recognition of an expense of $45,176 in the Statement of Financial Performance of the current reporting period.
National Registration Authority
for Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals

Notes to and forming part of the
Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2001

1.11 Intangibles

The carrying amount of intangible assets is reviewed to determine whether it is in excess of each asset’s recoverable amount. If an excess exists at the reporting date, the asset is written down to its recoverable amount immediately. In assessing recoverable amounts, the relevant cash flows have been discounted to their present value.

The Authority’s amortisation rate for intangible assets was reviewed at 30th June 2001 and adjusted as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Intangibles</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The financial effect of this change in accounting policy is the recognition of an expense of $14,655 in the Statement of Financial Performance of the current reporting period.

1.12 Taxation

The Authority is exempt from all forms of taxation except fringe benefits tax and the goods and services tax.

1.13 Comparative Figures

Comparative figures have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation in these financial statements where required.

1.14 Rounding

Amounts are presented in whole dollars except in Note 13, Financial Instruments, where amounts are rounded to the nearest $1,000.

1.15 Changes in Accounting Policy

The accounting policies used in the preparation of these financial statements are consistent with those used in 1999-01 with the exception of the policy in regard to the useful lives of assets. This change is described in Note 1.10 and Note 1.11.
National Registration Authority
for Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals

Notes to and forming part of the
Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2001

2. Reporting by Segments and Outcomes

Reporting by Segments

The Authority operates primarily in a single industry and geographical segment being the regulation of agricultural and veterinary chemicals in Australia.

The Authority is structured to meet a single outcome. Given the need to use agricultural and veterinary chemicals for pest and disease control, the work of the Authority protects the health and safety of people, animals and the environment. In respect to food and fibre production, the Authority's activities support Australian agricultural and livestock industries.

Reporting by Outcomes for 2000-2001

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcome</th>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>Actual</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Net Cost to Budget Outcome</td>
<td>732,000</td>
<td>(934,751)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Outcome Specific Assets</td>
<td>13,080,000</td>
<td>19,123,874</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
National Registration Authority  
for Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals

Notes to and forming part of the 
Financial Statements  
for the year ended 30 June 2001

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Operating Revenues</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(a) - Revenue from Government Appropriation</td>
<td>108,000</td>
<td>108,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(b) - Sales of Goods and Services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goods</td>
<td>3,571</td>
<td>560</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Services</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>39,825</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>5,571</td>
<td>40,385</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(c) - Interest</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank Deposits &amp; Commercial Bill</td>
<td>896,166</td>
<td>635,490</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(d) - Proceeds and Expenses from Disposal &amp; Write-off of Non-financial Assets:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revenue (proceeds) from Disposal</td>
<td>49,072</td>
<td>2,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expense from Disposal &amp; Write-off:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disposal</td>
<td>(91,578)</td>
<td>(1,565)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Write-off</td>
<td>(227,731)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>(319,309)</td>
<td>(1,565)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net (Loss)/Gain</td>
<td>(270,237)</td>
<td>635</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(e) - Industry Contributions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Levies</td>
<td>10,313,122</td>
<td>10,425,453</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registration Renewals</td>
<td>4,192,900</td>
<td>3,999,013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application Fees</td>
<td>2,603,167</td>
<td>2,801,821</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permits and Other Fees</td>
<td>369,229</td>
<td>359,166</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>17,478,418</td>
<td>17,585,453</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2001

### 4. Operating Expenses - goods and services

#### (a) - Employee Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Remuneration (for services provided)</td>
<td>8,727,148</td>
<td>7,837,143</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Separation &amp; Redundancies</td>
<td>30,467</td>
<td>243,356</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Remuneration</strong></td>
<td>8,757,615</td>
<td>8,080,499</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Employee Expenses</td>
<td>624,884</td>
<td>480,897</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>9,382,499</td>
<td>8,561,396</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### (b) - Suppliers Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Supply Of Goods &amp; Services</td>
<td>6,852,720</td>
<td>6,691,256</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating Lease Rentals</td>
<td>589,774</td>
<td>500,802</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>7,442,494</td>
<td>7,192,058</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### (c) - Depreciation and Amortisation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Depreciation of Infrastructure, Plant &amp; Equipment</td>
<td>482,548</td>
<td>426,121</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amortisation of Intangibles</td>
<td>90,541</td>
<td>43,413</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>573,089</td>
<td>469,534</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
National Registration Authority  
for Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals  

Notes to and forming part of the  
Financial Statements  
for the year ended 30 June 2001

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Financial Assets</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(a) - Cash</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash at bank and on hand</td>
<td>6,088,283</td>
<td>13,341,628</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments - Commercial Bills</td>
<td>10,447,868</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance of cash as at 30 June shown in the Statement of Cash Flows</td>
<td>16,536,151</td>
<td>13,341,628</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(b) - Receivables</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goods &amp; Services</td>
<td>145,243</td>
<td>62,317</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less: Provision for Doubtful Debts</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(22,896)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Receivables</td>
<td>145,243</td>
<td>39,421</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GST Receivable</td>
<td>339,486</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Debtors</td>
<td>21,224</td>
<td>61,716</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Receivables</td>
<td>505,953</td>
<td>101,137</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receivables (gross) which are overdue are aged as follows:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Overdue</td>
<td>494,143</td>
<td>61,716</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overdue by:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- less than 30 days</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 30 to 60 days</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 60 to 90 days</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- more than 90 days</td>
<td>11,810</td>
<td>62,317</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>505,953</td>
<td>124,033</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. Non-financial Assets

(a) - Infrastructure, Plant & Equipment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Plant &amp; Equipment at cost</td>
<td>2,675,210</td>
<td>2,551,294</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Accumulated Depreciation</td>
<td>(1,243,988)</td>
<td>(1,106,271)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Infrastructure, Plant &amp; Equipment</td>
<td>1,431,222</td>
<td>1,445,023</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
National Registration Authority
for Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals

Notes to and forming part of the
Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2001

(b) - Analysis of Infrastructure, Plant, Equipment and Intangibles

TABLE A: Movement summary 2000-01 for all assets irrespective of valuation basis

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Infrastructure, Plant and Equipment</th>
<th>Computer Software - Total Intangibles</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gross Value as at 1 July 2000</td>
<td>2,551,294</td>
<td>751,972</td>
<td>3,303,266</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additions</td>
<td>569,174</td>
<td>367,539</td>
<td>936,713</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Write-offs</td>
<td>(18,582)</td>
<td>(241,257)</td>
<td>(259,839)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disposals</td>
<td>(426,676)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(426,676)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gross Value as at 30 June 2001</td>
<td>2,875,210</td>
<td>878,254</td>
<td>3,553,464</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accumulated Depreciation as at 1 July 2000</td>
<td>1,106,271</td>
<td>213,697</td>
<td>1,319,968</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depreciation/amortisation charge for the year</td>
<td>482,546</td>
<td>90,541</td>
<td>573,089</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Write-offs</td>
<td>(9,733)</td>
<td>(22,375)</td>
<td>(32,108)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disposals</td>
<td>(335,098)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(335,098)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accumulated Depreciation / Amortisation as at 30 June 2001</td>
<td>1,243,988</td>
<td>281,863</td>
<td>1,525,851</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Book Value as at 30 June 2001</td>
<td>1,431,222</td>
<td>596,391</td>
<td>2,027,613</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Book Value as at 1 July 2000</td>
<td>1,445,023</td>
<td>538,275</td>
<td>1,983,298</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Valuations

The last independent valuation of infrastructure, plant and equipment was carried out as at 1 July 1999 by Simon B O’Leary, AAPI MSAA and Bryan Hurrell, FAPI of the Australian Valuation Office and was on the basis of the deprival value of the assets concerned in their existing use.

In 1999-00 the adjustment to written down values was not considered to be material. Accordingly, no adjustment was made to the value of non-current assets shown in the balance sheet.

This valuation is in accordance with the Authority’s policy of obtaining an independent valuation of non-current assets every three years.
Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2001

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(c) - Intangible Assets</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Externally Acquired Computer Software - at cost</td>
<td>478,606</td>
<td>232,741</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amortisation</td>
<td>(246,088)</td>
<td>(155,548)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>232,518</td>
<td>77,193</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internally Developed Software - at cost</td>
<td>399,648</td>
<td>519,231</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amortisation</td>
<td>(35,775)</td>
<td>(58,149)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>363,873</td>
<td>461,082</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Computer Software and Intangibles</td>
<td>596,391</td>
<td>538,275</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(d) - Other Non-financial Assets</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepayments</td>
<td>54,157</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7. Provisions and Payables

(a) - Provisions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Leave</td>
<td>1,874,648</td>
<td>1,526,902</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Separation and Redundancy</td>
<td>30,467</td>
<td>89,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1,905,115</td>
<td>1,615,902</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(b) - Payables

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salaries and Wages</td>
<td>212,305</td>
<td>182,694</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suppliers - Trade Creditors</td>
<td>2,730,667</td>
<td>1,081,831</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unearned Income</td>
<td>4,458,445</td>
<td>3,699,621</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lease Incentive Liability</td>
<td>309,503</td>
<td>380,927</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7,710,920</td>
<td>5,345,073</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Provisions and Payables</td>
<td>9,616,035</td>
<td>6,980,975</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Unearned Income for 2000-01 consisted of levies and registration renewal fees related to 2001-02 which were received prior to 1 July 2001.
National Registration Authority
for Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals

Notes to and forming part of the
Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2001

8. Equity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Accumulated Results</th>
<th>General Reserve</th>
<th>TOTAL EQUITY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balance 1 July 2000</td>
<td>6,711,088</td>
<td>1,754,000</td>
<td>8,465,088</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfer</td>
<td>(3,146,000)</td>
<td>3,146,000</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surplus</td>
<td>1,042,751</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1,042,751</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance 30 June 2001</td>
<td>4,607,839</td>
<td>4,900,000</td>
<td>9,507,839</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2001 $                                2000 $

9. Cash Flow Reconciliation

Reconciliation of operating surplus to net cash provided by operating activities:

Operating Surplus                  1,042,751  2,314,862
Depreciation and Amortisation of Plant and Equipment  482,548   426,121
Amortisation of Intangibles         90,541    43,413
Loss/(Gains) on Disposal & Write-off of Assets  270,237 (635)
Changes in Assets and Liabilities
  Decrease/(Increase) in Receivables  (404,816)  2,331,194
  Decrease/(Increase) in other Assets (54,157)    37,225
  Increase/(Decrease) in Unearned Income  758,824 (644,480)
  Increase in Payables                 1,481,300  688,203
  Increase in Provisions               289,213    130,425

Net cash provided by operating activities  3,956,441  5,326,328
National Registration Authority
for Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals

Notes to and forming part of the
Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2001

10. Remuneration of Directors

Directors of the Authority during the year were:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Appointment Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr John S Keniry</td>
<td>Chairperson</td>
<td>Appointed 16 March 2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Peter Bailey</td>
<td>Deputy Chairperson</td>
<td>Appointed 16 March 2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Ian Champion</td>
<td></td>
<td>Appointed 16 March 2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Peter Dingle</td>
<td></td>
<td>Appointed 16 March 2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professor John McLean</td>
<td></td>
<td>Appointed 16 March 2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Mark Allison</td>
<td></td>
<td>Appointed 16 March 2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Michael Nicholls</td>
<td></td>
<td>Appointed 16 March 2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Lynette Fragar</td>
<td></td>
<td>Appointed 16 March 2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Merrilyn McPherson</td>
<td></td>
<td>Appointed 16 March 2000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aggregate amount of superannuation payments in connection with the retirement of directors</td>
<td>9,775</td>
<td>9,996</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other remuneration received or due and receivable by directors of the Authority</td>
<td>136,648</td>
<td>140,779</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total remuneration received or due and receivable by directors of the Authority</td>
<td>146,423</td>
<td>150,775</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The number of directors of the Authority included in these figures are shown below in the relevant remuneration bands.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Remuneration Range</th>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nil - $9,999</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$10,000 - $19,999</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$20,000 - $29,999</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$30,000 - $39,999</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

No director has received, or become entitled to receive, a material benefit by way of contract made by the Authority with a director or with an organisation in which he or she is a member, takes part in the management of its affairs or has a substantial interest.
National Registration Authority  
for Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals  

Notes to and forming part of the  
Financial Statements  
for the year ended 30 June 2001  

11. Remuneration of Officers  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income received or due and receivable by officers</th>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$1,302,503</td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,100,080</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Remuneration Range</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Range</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$100,001 - $110,000</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2001</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$110,001 - $120,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$120,001 - $130,000</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$130,001 - $140,000</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$140,001 - $150,000</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$150,001 - $160,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$180,001 - $190,000</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The officer remuneration includes all officers concerned with or taking part in the management of the Authority during 2000-01 except the Board Chairperson. Details in relation to the Chairperson have been incorporated into Note 10 – Remuneration of Directors.

The NRA has included the expense associated with annual leave and long service leave in the calculation of officer's remuneration for the first time in 2000-01. This has resulted in a major variation in the categorisation of remuneration. In some cases the band categorisation is heavily influenced by long service leave taken and liabilities transferred from other Agencies and Authorities resulting in a significant distortion of the remuneration disclosed.

In addition, for the first time performance bonuses paid to officers in 2000-01 have been included in officer's remuneration where they are attributable to work performed in 2000-01.

12. Auditors Remuneration

The audit of the Authority is carried out by the Australian National Audit Office (ANAO). The amount payable for audit services in auditing the financial statements for the reporting period was $21,000 (1999-00: $15,000). No other services have been provided by the ANAO during the reporting period.
# Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2001

## 13. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

### (a) Terms, conditions and accounting policies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Financial Instrument</th>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>Accounting Policies and Methods (including recognition criteria and measurement basis)</th>
<th>Nature of underlying instrument (including significant terms and conditions affecting the amount, timing and certainty of cash flows)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Financial Assets</td>
<td></td>
<td>Financial assets are recognised when control over future economic benefits is established and the amount of the benefit can be reliably measured.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial Bill</td>
<td>5(a)</td>
<td>The Commercial Bill is recognised at cost. Interest is accrued as it is earned.</td>
<td>The Commercial Bill is with the Commonwealth Bank of Australia, and at 30 June 2001 earns an effective rate of interest of 4.88%.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receivables for Goods &amp; Services</td>
<td>5(b)</td>
<td>These receivables are recognised at the nominal amounts due less any provision for bad and doubtful debts. Provisions are made when collection of the debt is judged to be less rather than more likely.</td>
<td>Credit terms are net 30 days (2000 - 30 days).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Liabilities</td>
<td></td>
<td>Financial liabilities are recognised when a present obligation to another party is entered into and the amount of the liability can be reliably measured.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trade Creditors</td>
<td>7(b)</td>
<td>Creditors, accruals and unearned income are recognised at their nominal amounts, being the amounts at which the liabilities will be settled. Liabilities are recognised to the extent that the goods or services have been received (and irrespective of having been invoiced).</td>
<td>Settlement is usually made net 30 days.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2001

#### Financial Assets (Recognised)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Financial Instrument</th>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>Floating Interest Rate</th>
<th>Fixed Interest Rate</th>
<th>Non-Interest Bearing</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Weighted Average Effective Interest Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$'000</td>
<td>$'000</td>
<td>$'000</td>
<td>$'000</td>
<td>$'000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>00-01 99-00</td>
<td>00-01 99-00</td>
<td>00-01 99-00</td>
<td>00-01 99-00</td>
<td>00-01 99-00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash at Bank</td>
<td>5(a)</td>
<td>6,086 13,340</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash on Hand</td>
<td>5(a)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial Bill</td>
<td>5(a)</td>
<td>10,448 0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receivables for Goods and Services</td>
<td>5(b)</td>
<td>506 -</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Financial Assets (Recognised)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>17,040 13,340</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>17,040 13,340</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Liabilities (Recognised)</td>
<td></td>
<td>7 -</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Financial Liabilities</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>7 -</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

National Registration Authority for Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals

NRA ANNUAL REPORT 2000–2001
13. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (continued)

(c) Net Fair Value of Financial Assets and Liabilities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Note</th>
<th>2001 Total Carrying Amount</th>
<th>Aggregate Net Fair Value</th>
<th>2000 Total Carrying Amount</th>
<th>Aggregate Net Fair Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>'000</td>
<td>'000</td>
<td>'000</td>
<td>'000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Assets</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash at Bank</td>
<td>5(a)</td>
<td>6,086</td>
<td>6,086</td>
<td>13,340</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash on Hand</td>
<td>5(a)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial Bill</td>
<td>5(a)</td>
<td>10,448</td>
<td>10,448</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receivables for Goods and Services</td>
<td>5(b)</td>
<td>506</td>
<td>506</td>
<td>101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Financial Assets</td>
<td></td>
<td>17,042</td>
<td>17,042</td>
<td>13,443</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Financial Liabilities (Recognised)

| Payables | 7 | 7,401 | 7,401 | 4,964 | 4,964 |
| Total Financial Liabilities (Recognised) | 7,401 | 7,401 | 4,964 | 4,964 |

Financial Assets

The net fair values of cash, investments and non-interest-bearing monetary financial assets approximate their carrying amounts.

The net fair values of receivables for goods and services and other assets, all of which are short term in nature, are approximated by their carrying amounts.

Financial Liabilities

The net fair value for trade creditors, all of which are short term in nature, are approximated by their carrying amounts.
National Registration Authority
for Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals

Notes to and forming part of the
Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2001

(d) Credit Risk Exposure

The Authority's maximum exposure to credit risk at reporting date in relation to each class of recognised financial assets is the carrying amount of those assets as indicated in the Balance Sheet.

The Authority has no significant exposure to any concentrations of credit risk.
Appendices
Appendix A: **NRA Board**

The current Board was appointed on 16 March 2000 until 15 October 2002, to separate corporate planning and budgeting, normally considered by the Board in the first half of the calendar year, from the appointment cycle for future Boards.

The Board met six times in 2000–2001. Attendance by Directors is detailed in Table A1. Three meetings were held in Canberra and three at interstate locations to visit rural industry stakeholders.

The Board secretariat is provided by the Communications and Secretariat Section of NRA. The contact is Mr Alan Hill, Executive Officer, NRA Board, ph. (02) 6272 5238.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Meetings attended</th>
<th>Meetings eligible</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr J Keniry (Chairman)</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr P Bailey</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr I Champion</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr P Dingle</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr M Nicholls</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pr J McLean</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs M McPherson</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr L Fragar</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr M Allison</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Declared interests

Directors are required to declare material personal interests in deliberations of the Board. Declarations by Directors are detailed in Table A2.

**TABLE A2:** Declared interests of NRA Board Directors in 2000–2001

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Board Meeting</th>
<th>Declaration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NRA53 May 2001</td>
<td><em>Endosulfan</em> – extension of time to submit OH&amp;S studies. Pursuant to subsection 23(1) of the <em>Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Act 1992</em> (the Admin. Act), Dr Fragar declared her interest in this matter being the Director of the Australian Centre for Agricultural Health and Safety, which has an interest in preparing OH&amp;S studies pursuant to the review of <em>endosulfan</em>, and absented herself for the duration of deliberations and did not vote on the matter. Note: Mr Allison was no longer the General Manager of Cropcare Australasia P/L (see below).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NRA51 Dec 2000</td>
<td><em>Endosulfan</em> – extension of time to submit OH&amp;S studies. Pursuant to subsection 23(1) of the <em>Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Act 1992</em> (the Admin. Act), Dr Fragar declared her interest in this matter being the Director of the Australian Centre for Agricultural Health and Safety, which has an interest in preparing OH&amp;S studies pursuant to the review of <em>endosulfan</em>, and absented herself from the meeting while the remaining Directors considered her declaration. Mr Allison also declared his interest in this matter being the General Manager of CropCare Australasia P/L, a company which is the registrant of products containing <em>endosulfan</em>. The remaining Board members were satisfied that Dr Fragar’s and Mr Allison’s interests should disqualify them both from considering the matter and determined that Dr Fragar and Mr Allison should not partake in the deliberations or vote on the matter.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NRA51 Dec 2000</td>
<td><em>CHEMCERT</em> – funding proposal. The CEO, Dr Turner declared her interest in this matter as a Director of ChemCert and absented herself from the meeting. The Board was satisfied that Dr Turner’s interest should disqualify her from being present during the Board’s deliberations on the matter and therefore determined that Dr Turner should not partake in those deliberations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NRA49 Aug 2000</td>
<td><em>Special review of sulphonamides.</em> Pursuant to subsection 23(1) of the <em>Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Act 1992</em> (the Admin. Act), Dr Keniry declared his interest in this matter being the Chair of Ridley Corporation, a company with registered products affected by this review, and his intention not to participate in deliberations or vote on the matter. The Board noted that the findings of this review would be recommended to the Deputy Chief Executive Officer as delegate. Pursuant to subsection 23(1) of the <em>Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Act 1992</em> (the Admin. Act), Mr Nicholls also declared his potential conflict of interest as a user of registered products affected by this review and his intention not to participate in deliberations or vote on the matter. The Board determined that Dr Keniry and Mr Nicholls might be present during the Board’s deliberations on this matter, during which time the meeting was chaired by Mr Bailey, Deputy Chairman.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Indemnities and insurance

The NRA has provided indemnity to each director and a number of NRA officers. The NRA maintains directors’ and officers’ liability insurance as set out (see Table A3). Under the terms of the policy the nature of the liabilities covered and the amount of premium payable under the contract of insurance are confidential.
The NRA maintains Directors’ and officers’ liability insurance for officers named in Table A3. The nature of the liabilities covered and the amount of premium payable, under the contract of insurance, are confidential under the terms of the policy.

**TABLE A3:** Indemnities and insurance for NRA Directors and officers in 2000–2001

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Officers</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Indemnity Agreement</th>
<th>Director and Officer Liability Insurance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr John Keniry</td>
<td>Director (Chairman)</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Peter Bailey</td>
<td>Director (Deputy Chairman)</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Ian Champion</td>
<td>Director</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Peter Dingle</td>
<td>Director</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Michael Nicholls</td>
<td>Director</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pr John McLean</td>
<td>Director</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs Merrilyn McPherson</td>
<td>Director</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Lyn Fragar</td>
<td>Director</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Mark Allison</td>
<td>Director</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Alison Turner</td>
<td>Chief Executive Officer</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Greg Hooper</td>
<td>Deputy Chief Executive Officer</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Peter Raphael</td>
<td>Executive Manager Registration</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Tony de la Fosse</td>
<td>Executive Manager Corporate Services</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr James Suter</td>
<td>General Counsel</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Fatima Beattie</td>
<td>Manager Quality Assurance &amp; Compliance</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Ron Eichner</td>
<td>Manager Chemical Review</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Trevor Doust</td>
<td>Manager Chemistry &amp; Residue Evaluation</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Max Darvill</td>
<td>Manager AgVet Chemicals Evaluation</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Audit Committee**

The primary objective of the Audit Committee is to assist with the Board’s responsibilities relating to the NRA’s financial accounting and reporting practices. The current membership is Mr Peter Bailey (Chair), Mr Ian Champion and Mr Michael Nicholls. The Audit Committee met in August 2000 and in January, March and April 2001. Meetings coincide with key financial year milestones for provision of advice and reports to the Board. Attendance is detailed in Table A4.

**TABLE A4:** Attendance at NRA Board Audit Committee in 2000–2001

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Meetings attended</th>
<th>Meetings eligible</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mr P Bailey (Chairman)</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr I Champion</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr M Nicholls</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Secretariat support is provided by the Corporate Services Section of NRA. The contact is Mr Tony de la Fosse, Executive Manager, Corporate Services, ph. (02) 6272 5874.
The NRA administers legislation established under the National Registration Scheme on behalf of the Commonwealth, States and Territories and is responsible for the assessment, registration and regulation of agvet chemical products up to, and including, the point of retail sale.

Before an agricultural or veterinary chemical product can be sold in Australia, it must be assessed and registered by the NRA.

Chemical companies are required to provide extensive data to demonstrate that a product will be effective for the uses described on the label, will be safe for humans and non-target species, and will not pose unacceptable risks to the environment or trade with other nations.

When products are evaluated, the NRA takes full account of the nature of the product, the amount and completeness of data for review, and the extent of consultation required between the NRA and manufacturers, advisory agencies, and States and Territories.

Residue studies on crops and animals are evaluated to establish a maximum residue limit (MRL) and withholding period. Recommendations for using the product are checked to see that they are consistent with the data provided, and labelling is examined to ensure it is accurate and meets Commonwealth and State legislative requirements.

**Specialist advice from agencies**

For specialist advice during the assessment process, the NRA receives input from a number of Commonwealth agencies.

- Environment Australia evaluates the environmental implications of products submitted for registration and recommends measures to avoid or minimise adverse environmental effects.
- NOHSC conducts occupational health and safety assessments to ensure that any risks arising out of workers’ exposure to agricultural and veterinary (agvet) chemical products are minimised.
- The Australia New Zealand Food Authority (ANZFA) assesses the dietary intake implications of residues in food and, in cooperation with NRA, sets MRLs.
- The Office of the Gene Technology Regulator (OGTR) provides expert advice on products of gene technology.
- The Expert Advisory Group on Antimicrobial Resistance addresses the implications of the use of antibiotics in agriculture.
- The Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS) advises on quarantine safety matters associated with imported biological products.

Evaluations may take several months to complete in the case of new products. Evaluations of variations to products already on the market may be completed more quickly.

At some stages of the evaluation process, consultation may occur with the States and Territories, other Commonwealth agencies, and a range of expert panels or committees that provide advice to the NRA. This process ensures that appropriate knowledge and experience is incorporated into the assessment process. Figure B1 shows the registration process.
FIGURE B1: Registration process for agricultural and veterinary chemicals
Applicants are consulted during the evaluation process, particularly on technical issues or areas of concern.

Before registering a product containing a new active constituent, or amending a registration to allow a major change of use, the NRA publishes a summary of an evaluation as a basis for public comment.

These public release summaries (PRS) are advertised in the NRA Gazette to notify the community that the product is under assessment, to offer further information and to invite comment, which is taken into account before final decisions are made.

The NRA also sends a copy to interested stakeholders who have requested copies.

When an assessment is complete, the product is either registered or rejected. In many cases, the NRA proposes amendments to the draft label as a requirement of approval.

### Regulation and monitoring

Agyet chemical products are not registered forever.

The NRA operates four programs that monitor agvet chemicals after registration. These programs have the capacity to bring about regulatory action if registration standards are not maintained, or if new information dictates the need to reconsider the conditions of registration.

### Chemical review

Two review programs revisit the registration of agvet chemicals to ensure that the chemicals continue to meet contemporary efficacy, health, safety, environmental and trade standards.

The Existing Chemicals Review Program is a systematic review that focuses on chemicals that have been prioritised from public nominations.

The Special Review Program allows the NRA to immediately review chemicals if issues arise that may alter the terms of their registration.

### Compliance

The standards set at registration are enforced in the marketplace using a range of compliance strategies applied at the relevant points in the supply chain, which extends from the import barrier to retail premises.

Compliance involves the assessment of risk and the application of appropriate enforcement responses to alleged breaches of the Agvet Code reported by industry or identified via the NRA’s intelligence function. The reports investigated can relate to unregistered products, supply of restricted products to unauthorised users, unapproved labels, claims in advertising, or formulations and active constituents.

The NRA liaises regularly with State and Territory agencies to ensure effective communication and coordination of effort.

### Reporting of adverse experiences

The Adverse Experience Reporting Program, introduced in January 1995, requires manufacturers of veterinary chemical products to report any adverse effects resulting from use of a product.

Members of the public are also invited to report adverse experiences that may be linked to the use of a veterinary chemical product. Reports are investigated and, where required, regulatory action can be taken.

### Manufacturers’ Licensing Scheme

The NRA’s Manufacturers’ Licensing Scheme, introduced on 15 March 1996, requires all Australian manufacturers of veterinary chemical products to be licensed and to meet standards described in a Code of Good Manufacturing Practice (the GMP Code). It includes audits of manufacturing practice. The scheme aims to achieve consistent quality standards across the industry and to realise export potential. It also reduces the need for post-market surveillance and allows compliance efforts to be targeted to areas requiring attention.
Consultation

The NRA places a high priority on communication with the various stakeholders involved in the National Registration Scheme. It operates or participates in a number of consultative forums on issues relating to agvet chemicals and products. These consultative mechanisms have been instrumental in developing key programs and priorities. Further information on consultation undertaken in 2000–2001 is provided at Appendix D.

Improving the systems

The NRA is committed to the continuous improvement of the systems used to register agvet chemicals and to the harmonisation of regulatory processes with key agencies in the field.
Background to the legislation establishing the National Registration Scheme and the NRA

Prior to March 1995, the Commonwealth held responsibility for the evaluation and assessment of selected agvet chemical products and their clearance for registration. The States and Territories were responsible for the registration and control of use of all agvet chemical products.

Initially, the Commonwealth’s involvement in the clearance process was informal, but from 1 July 1989 the arrangements were put on a legislative basis with the enactment of the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Act 1988, which established the Australian Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Council to undertake clearance activities.

In July 1991, the Commonwealth, States and Territories agreed to establish the National Registration Scheme (NRS) for agricultural and veterinary chemicals. The development of the NRS sought to place under one national umbrella the assessment and registration of all agvet chemical products, previously undertaken independently by the Commonwealth and each of the States and Territories.

The NRS represents a partnership between the Commonwealth, States and Territories, in which the Commonwealth is responsible for the evaluation, registration and review of agricultural and veterinary chemicals, and their control up to the point of retail sale. The States and Territories retain responsibility for control-of-use activities, such as licensing of pest control operators and aerial spraying.

The first major step in establishing the NRS was the establishment by the Commonwealth of the NRA on 15 June 1993 under the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Act 1992. The NRA is an independent statutory authority and undertakes the Commonwealth’s responsibilities under the NRS.

The Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Act 1988, which provided the legislative basis for the former arrangements, was initially amended at the same time to transfer the powers and functions of the outgoing Australian Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Council to the NRA.

However, on 15 March 1995, following the commencement of a suite of Commonwealth, State and Territory legislation, the NRS came into full operation. The package of legislation (referred to as the National Registration legislation) repealed the 1988 Act and established a new legislative regime for the NRA’s operations.

The National Registration legislation consists of seven Acts, three dealing with registration activities and four relating to registration fees and charges. The centrepiece of this suite of legislation is the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code (the ‘Agvet Code’) scheduled to the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Act 1994, which contains the detailed operational provisions for registering chemical products and provides the NRA with its full range of powers, including the evaluation, registration and review of agricultural and veterinary chemical products; the control of the importation, manufacture and export of chemical products; and ensuring compliance with, and enforcement of, the Code. The last four Acts in the package contain the cost recovery mechanisms—in particular, the imposition, assessment and collection of a levy on sales of chemical products—which establish the NRA as an independent, self-funding regulatory body. A list of the laws comprising the National Registration legislation appears below.

The Agvet Code is a law of the Commonwealth that only applies in the Australian Capital Territory. To enable the Agvet Code to have national coverage, each of the States and the Northern Territory enacted complementary legislation that has the effect that
the Agvet Code of the Australian Capital Territory is applied as a law of each State and the Northern Territory. Taken together, they are referred to as the Agvet Codes.

While the Agvet Codes apply in the States and the Northern Territory as the law of those jurisdictions, the applied laws are partly ‘federalised’ – that is, for most practical purposes they have the general characteristics of Commonwealth rather than State laws. In particular, this ‘federalisation’ allows the Commonwealth’s Acts Interpretation Act 1901 to apply for the purposes of interpreting the Agvet Codes so there is a uniform interpretative regime. Also, the Commonwealth’s administrative law package applies, which allows exclusive rights of review of NRA decisions taken under the Agvet Codes as though the decisions were made under Commonwealth laws. Additionally, the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions is empowered to prosecute for any offences against the legislation even though such offences are offences against the laws of the States or Territories concerned.

The National Registration legislation comprises the following seven Acts:

- the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Act 1994 [No. 36 of 1994]
- the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Act 1994 [No. 47 of 1994]
- the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Consequential Amendments) Act 1994 [No. 37 of 1994]
- the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemical Products (Collection of Levy) Act 1994 [No. 41 of 1994]
- the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemical Products Levy Imposition (Customs) Act 1994 [No. 39 of 1994]
- the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemical Products Levy Imposition (Excise) Act 1994 [No. 38 of 1994]
- the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemical Products Levy Imposition (General) Act 1994 [No. 40 of 1994].

A description of these Acts and other laws relating to agvet chemicals appears in the next section.

### Current legislation

The complex legislative arrangements governing the NRA and its regulation of agvet chemicals may best be understood from the following description of the principal Acts (in **bold** type) together with a brief summary of relevant amendments.

#### Statutes

**Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Act 1992 [No. 262 of 1992]**

This Act, which came into effect on 15 June 1993, establishes the NRA as a statutory authority to undertake the Commonwealth’s responsibilities under the National Registration Scheme for agricultural and veterinary chemicals.

**Primary Industries and Energy Legislation Amendment Act 1993 [No. 94 of 1993]**

This Act, which commenced on 16 December 1993, makes minor amendments to the 1992 Administration Act relating to financial and staffing matters.

**Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Consequential Amendments) Act 1994 [No. 37 of 1994]**

This Act, which was part of the National Registration legislation and thus commenced on 15 March 1995, makes amendments to the Administration Act and to the Copyright Act 1968 which were necessary as a consequence of the introduction of the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Act 1994 and the repealing of the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Act 1988. In particular, the functions of the NRA, which were mostly taken over from the outgoing Australian Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Council and contained in the repealed Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Act 1988 were, by this amendment, incorporated into the Administration Act.

The Administration Act was also amended to include certain controls over the importation, manufacture and exportation of agvet chemicals by making it an...
offence to import unapproved active constituents or unregistered chemical products. The amendments also enabled the NRA to monitor the import, manufacture and export of unapproved active constituents and unregistered chemical products. Because these are functions for which the Commonwealth can constitutionally enact laws, they were included as amendments to the Administration Act rather than being included in the Agvet Codes.

The Consequential Amendments Act also makes some consequential amendments to the Copyright Act 1968 to confirm that the reproduction of a label for an agvet chemical product is not an infringement of any copyright subsisting under Part III or section 92 of the Copyright Act.

Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Amendment Act 1994 [No. 76 of 1994]

This Act, which commenced on 1 July 1994, is one of a package of six Acts that gave effect to the interim cost recovery arrangements for the operation of the NRS (see also the Interim Cost Recovery legislation below). The Act amended section 58 of the Administration Act 1992 to provide that relevant levy or late payment penalties are payable to the NRA via the Consolidated Revenue Fund.

Primary Industries and Energy Legislation Amendment Act 1994 [No. 94 of 1994]

This Act, the relevant parts of which commenced on 15 March 1995, makes a minor amendment to the functions and powers of the NRA set out in the 1992 Administration Act. It also makes a minor alteration to the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemical Products (Collection of Levy) Act 1994 (see below).

Customs, Excise and Bounty Legislation Amendment Act 1995 [No. 85 of 1995]

This Act, which commenced on 1 July 1995, makes a minor amendment to subsection 69B(4) of the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Act 1992. The subsection sets out particular circumstances in which imported chemical products or active constituents are, for the purposes of the Customs Act 1901, taken to be prohibited imports. The amendment has the effect as if products or constituents included in an importation, in the circumstances set out in the subsection, were goods described as forfeited to the Crown under section 229 of the Customs Act 1901 because they were prohibited imports within the meaning of that Act.

Primary Industries and Energy Legislation Amendment Act (No. 2) 1996 [No. 59 of 1996]

This Act makes amendments to the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Act 1992, and to the Agvet Code scheduled to the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Act 1994. The amendments to the Administration Act commenced on 20 November 1996.

The amendments to the Administration Act:

- require the NRA to comply with the policies of the Commonwealth, State and Territory governments;
- require the NRA to give information to the Department of Primary Industries and Energy (now AFFA) about active constituents that are imported into, manufactured in, or exported from, Australia on an annual basis, which will allow the department to fulfil its international obligations to provide information about chemical products that have been restricted by the NRA to overseas regulatory authorities; and
- enable the NRA to charge fees for certificates of export of agricultural and veterinary chemicals.

Audit (Transitional and Miscellaneous) Amendment Act 1997 [No. 152 of 1997]

On 1 January 1998, the Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997 (the CAC Act) commenced, which deals with matters relating to Commonwealth authorities, including reporting and accountability, banking and investment, and conduct of officers. The CAC Act was part of a package of legislation, which also included the Auditor-General Act 1997 and the Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997.
A number of transitional and consequential matters arose from the enactment of this legislative package and from the repeal of the Audit Act 1901, which were dealt with in the Audit (Transitional and Miscellaneous) Amendment Act 1997. The CAC Act applies to the NRA, and included in these consequential matters were minor changes to the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Act 1992.

Some prior provisions in the 1992 Administration Act relating to the NRA’s procedures for reporting and accountability, banking and investment, and conduct of officers, were amended so as to closely align with the general provisions covering these matters in the CAC Act.

Primary Industries and Energy Legislation Amendment Act (No. 1) 1998 [No.102 of 1998]
This Act commenced on 30 July 1998 and amends the 1992 Administration Act by increasing the constitution of the Board. The Board now consists of a Chairperson and eight directors, including an additional director with experience in development or administration of Commonwealth Government policy or the management of a Commonwealth statutory authority.

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Legislation Amendment Act (No. 1) 1999 [No.4 of 1999]
This Act commenced on 31 March 1999. The Act makes an amendment to the Admin. Act that modifies the Agvet Codes for the purposes of giving effect to Article 39(3) of the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (the TRIPS Agreement). These amendments provide five years’ protection for undisclosed texts and/or other data submitted to the NRA for evaluation of a new active constituent for an agricultural or veterinary chemical product. Such data will not be available for reference by a commercial competitor without the agreement of the originator of the data. These amendments remove any doubt about whether Australia is fulfilling its obligations under Article 39(3) of the TRIPS Agreement.

Public Employment (Consequential and Transitional) Amendment Act 1999 [No. 146 of 1999]
This Act, the relevant parts of which commenced on 5 December 1999, makes minor amendments to the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Act 1992 and the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemical Products (Collection of Interim Levy) Act 1994. The Admin. Act and the Collection of Interim Levy Act made several references to the Public Service Act 1922 and the Amendment Act changed these to the Public Service Act 1999.

Corporate Law Economic Reform Program Act 1999 [No. 156 of 1999]
This Act commenced on 24 November 1999 and makes minor changes to the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Act 1992 by amending references in s.24 (2)(b) to section 21 of the Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997 to read section 27F or 27J of the CAC Act.

Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Act 1994 [No. 36 of 1994]
This Act, which was part of the National Registration legislation and thus commenced on 15 March 1995, contains the constitutional and other legal provisions that enable the Agvet Code to have effect. The essence of the legislative arrangements that give effect to the NRS is, by means of complementary adoptive legislation, for the Commonwealth Parliament to pass a law establishing the Agvet Code in the Australian Capital Territory. This Act does this. The Agvet Code then is applied by the legislatures of the States and the Northern Territory as a law of those jurisdictions. This Act also contains the Commonwealth provisions that partly ‘federalised’ the applied Agvet Codes. This ‘federalisation’ of the applied laws was explained in the earlier part of this Appendix. This Act also repealed the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Act 1988.
The National Food Authority Amendment Act 1995 [No. 152 of 1995]

This Act, which commenced on 1 July 1996, amends the reference in subsection 7(2) of the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Act 1994 from the National Food Authority Act 1991 to the Australia New Zealand Food Authority Act 1991.

Jurisdiction of Courts Legislation Amendment Act 2000 [No. 57 of 2000]

This Act, which commenced on 1 July 2000, makes changes to the definition of ‘authority’ in section 4 and to subsection 20(4) as a result of the High Court’s decision in Re Wakim to invalidate the Commonwealth’s cross-vesting laws.

Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Act 1994 [No. 47 of 1994]

This Act, which was part of the National Registration legislation and thus commenced on 15 March 1995, contains as a schedule the Act, the ‘Agvet Code’, which has the detailed provisions allowing the NRA to evaluate, approve or register, and review active constituents and agricultural and veterinary chemical products (and their associated labels); to license the manufacture of chemical products; and to issue permits. The Agvet Code also contains detailed offence provisions allowing the NRA to regulate the control of agvet chemicals and other provisions for ensuring compliance with, and enforcement of, the Agvet Code. As well, the Code contains provisions for data protection compensation for review data.

Primary Industries and Energy Legislation Amendment Act (No. 2) 1994 [No. 129 of 1994]

This Act, the relevant parts of which were taken to have commenced on 15 March 1995, makes a minor amendment to the Agvet Code scheduled to the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Act 1994 in relation to section 159 requests for further information by the NRA.

Competition Policy Reform Act 1995 [No. 88 of 1995]

This Act, the relevant parts of which commenced on 6 November 1995, amends the reference in section 100 of the Agvet Code (concerning the recall of unregistered products) from the Trade Practices Commission to the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission.

Primary Industries and Energy Legislation Amendment Act (No. 2) 1996 [No. 59 of 1996]

The Act makes amendments to the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Act 1992, and the Agvet Code scheduled to the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Act 1994. The amendments to the Agvet Code commenced on 15 March 1995. The amendments to the Admin. Act are described above. The major amendment to the Agvet Code amends section 32(2) to allow the NRA to make tailored requests for review information. The information given to the NRA in response to its requests will be eligible for data protection. The amendment also makes some minor amendments to other sections of the Agvet Code.

Primary Industries and Energy Legislation Amendment Act (No. 1) 1997 [No. 22 of 1997]

This Act commenced on 7 April 1997 and amended the Agvet Code to extend the compensation provisions to active constituents of a chemical product. The amendments to the Agvet Code provide for a primary applicant who has given the NRA protected information about a protected active constituent to be given compensation in the event that a secondary applicant is given permission to use that information in connection with an application to approve another active constituent.

This Act commenced on 21 June 2001 and amends the 1992 Administration Act and the Agvet Codes. The NRA must now consult the Gene Technology Regulator in relation to chemical products or active constituents that are or contain a genetically modified product.


This Act, which commenced on 24 May 2001, limits the definition of 'Commonwealth officer' in subsection 69F(3) of the 1992 Administration Act.

The Levy legislation

Agricultural and Veterinary Chemical Products (Collection of Levy) Act 1994 [No. 41 of 1994]

This Act, which was part of the National Registration legislation and thus commenced on 15 March 1995, contains measures that allow for the assessment and collection of levies in regard to agricultural and veterinary chemical products registered for use in Australia. Together with the other levy legislation (see the next three Acts in this subsection below), this Act provides for the collection of levy imposed by the other three levy Acts. The Act also makes provision for certain powers of entry, inspection and seizure to determine the amount of levy, if any, that is payable. It also contains provisions for an appeal and review process where a person is dissatisfied with an assessment made under the Act.

Agricultural and Veterinary Chemical Products Levy Imposition (Excise) Act 1994 [No. 38 of 1994]

This Act, which also commenced on 15 March 1995, imposes levy on Australian manufactured products.

Agricultural and Veterinary Chemical Products Levy Imposition (General) Act 1994 [No. 40 of 1994]

This Act, which also commenced on 15 March 1995, imposes levy on imported chemical products sold directly as retail.

Agricultural and Veterinary Chemical Products (Collection of Levy) Amendment Act 1994 [No. 72 of 1994]

This Act, which also commenced on 15 March 1995, was part of the interim levy legislation (see below). The Act amended the Collection of Levy Act to provide that when that Act commences the 1993 levy was not collected twice as it was collected by the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemical Products (Collection of Interim Levy) Act 1994.

Primary Industries and Energy Legislation Amendment Act 1994 [No. 94 of 1994]

As noted above, this Act, the relevant parts of which commenced on 15 March 1995, principally amends the functions and powers of the NRA set out in the 1992 Administration Act. However, it also makes a minor alteration to the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemical Products (Collection of Levy) Act 1994 by inserting a definition of ‘relevant particulars’ in section 3.

Primary Industries and Energy Legislation Amendment Act (No. 1) 1995 [No. 36 of 1995]

This Act, which commenced on 12 April 1995, amends the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemical Products (Collection of Levy) Act 1994 by changing the prescribed date for payment of the levy from 1 July to 31 July, and overcoming the need for two annual levy payments in 1994–95 (i.e. September 1994 and June 1995). The Act also allows future levy payments to be paid by instalments.
The amendments in this Act also allow a product to be declared by regulations under the principal Levy Act to be an excluded chemical product at an earlier time than when it was registered by any State or Territory. The effect of the declaration is that the excluded product will be taken not to be registered at the relevant time and will not be liable for levy.

**Criminal Code Amendment (Theft, Fraud, Bribery and Related Offences) Act 2000**

[No. 137 of 2000]


This Act also limits the definition of ‘Commonwealth officer’ in subsection 18(2) of the Collection of Interim Levy Act.

**The Interim Cost Recovery legislation**

Agricultural and Veterinary Chemical Products (Collection of Interim Levy) Act 1994 [No. 71 of 1994]

Agricultural and Veterinary Chemical Products Interim Levy Imposition (Customs) Act 1994 [No. 73 of 1994]

Agricultural and Veterinary Chemical Products Interim Levy Imposition (Excise) Act 1994 [No. 75 of 1994]

Agricultural and Veterinary Chemical Products Interim Levy Imposition (General) Act 1994 [No. 74 of 1994]

Agricultural and Veterinary Chemical Products (Collection of Levy) Amendment Act 1994 [No. 72 of 1994]

Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Amendment Act 1994 [No. 76 of 1994]

This legislative package of six Acts, which mostly commenced on 1 July 1994, gives effect to interim cost-recovery arrangements for the operation of the National Registration Scheme pending the commencement of the National Registration legislation. The package provides for the imposition, assessment and collection of an interim levy in 1994 on the sales of agricultural and veterinary chemical products made during 1993.

There was a minor amendment made to the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemical Products (Collection of Interim Levy) Act 1994 by the Public Employment (Consequential and Transitional) Amendment Act 1999 [No. 146 of 1999] which commenced on 5 December 1999. The Collection of Interim Levy Act made several references to the Public Service Act 1922 and the Amendment Act changed these to the Public Service Act 1999.

**Delegated legislation**

THE ADMINISTRATION REGULATIONS

The Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Regulations [Statutory Rules 1995 No. 28] were made under the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Act 1992, and commenced on 15 March 1995. They prescribe the form of search warrant to be used when there is a suspected offence in relation to the importation, manufacture or exportation of agricultural or veterinary chemicals and specify the quantity of active constituents, below which an annual return of the importation, manufacture and exportation of these actives is not required.

The Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Regulations (Amendment) [Statutory Rules 1997, No. 320] commenced on 17 November 1997 and impose fees for certificates of export issued by the NRA under section 69D of the Administration Act. The fees imposed are:

- Standard certificate $100
- Certificate requiring DFAT certification $120
- Additional certificate $20
- Additional certificate requiring DFAT certification $40
THE AGVET CHEMICALS REGULATIONS

The Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Regulations 1999 [Statutory Rules 1999 No.326] commenced on 22 December 1999. For the purposes of s.18 of the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Act 1994, the Regulations prescribe functions in relation to the Director of Public Prosecutions of the Commonwealth, which enable the Director to bring prosecutions and proceedings for offences against the Agvet Codes or the Agvet Regulations.

THE CODE REGULATIONS

The Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Regulations [Statutory Rules 1995, No. 27] were made under the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Act 1994 and came into effect on 15 March 1995. The Regulations prescribe detailed provisions of the Code, including the approval and registration process, control of chemical products, and timeframes and fees for assessment of applications.

The Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Regulations (Amendment) [Statutory Rules 1995, No. 54] commenced 15 March 1995. The amending Regulations provide for transitional provisions for active constituents. The amendments allow active constituents that were approved under previous arrangements to be adopted as approved by the NRA for 12 months for the purposes of possession and custody.

The Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Regulations (Amendment) [Statutory Rules 1995, No. 137], which commenced on 15 June, vary the fees payable for the renewal of the registration of a chemical product.

The amending Regulations also, with effect from 1 July 1995, increase assessment fees for chemical products, including modular assessment fees.
Additionally, the amendments implement recommended changes proposed by the Senate Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances:

- an amendment to regulation 47A, which requires the NRA to give notice of its intention to withdraw the assigned notification number for HGP;
- an amendment making decisions of the NRA to withdraw notification numbers of premises selling HGP subject to review by the Administrative Appeals Tribunal; and
- a minor amendment to regulation 59C requiring the NRA to give at least one month’s notice to a legal personal representative or trustee in bankruptcy of a licence holder to provide further information about the legal representation. If the legal personal representative or trustee in bankruptcy fails to provide that information within that time, then that person will cease to be an exempt person under the legislation.

The **Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Amendment Regulations 1999 No. 1** [Statutory Rules 1999, No. 215] commenced on 16 September 1999. The amendments delete the chemical product ‘Dursban Pre-Construction Termiticide’ from Item 6 of Schedule 4 of the Agvet Code Regulations and substitute the following:

- Item 6, a chemical product that is a pre-construction termiticide product containing bifenthrin
- Item 7, a chemical product that is a pre-construction termiticide product containing chlorpyrifos
- Item 8, a chemical product containing endosulfan.

The effect of the amendments is to declare chemical products that are pre-construction termiticides that contain either bifenthrin or chlorpyrifos, together with chemical products that contain endosulfan, to be restricted chemical products under Division 4 of Part 4 of the Agvet Codes.

The **Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Amendment Regulations 1999 No. 2** [Statutory Rules 1999, No. 247] commenced on 31 October 1999. The amendments provide for a new category of application (Category 23A) for registration of certain swimming pool and spa chemical products that come within the definition of a ‘pool or spa hypochlorite’. The overall effect of the amendments is to reduce application fees for the registration of certain swimming pool and spa products and to lower their registration renewal fees.

**THE CODE ORDERS**

The **Veterinary Chemical Products (Excluded Stockfood Non-active Constituents) Order** [Statutory Rules 1995, No. 59] was made under the **Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Act 1994** and commenced on 15 March 1995. The Order excludes certain stockfood constituents from the definition of veterinary chemical products.

The **Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Orders 1999** [Statutory Rules 1999, No. 242] came into effect on 31 October 1999. The Orders specify Standard Labels for swimming pool and spa hypochlorites that come within the new application Category 23A.

**THE LEVY REGULATIONS**

The **Agricultural and Veterinary Chemical Products (Collection of Levy) Regulations** [Statutory Rules 1995, No. 120] commenced on 6 June 1995 to prescribe the State laws under which an agricultural or veterinary chemical product is registered under the **Agricultural and Veterinary Chemical Products (Collection of Levy) Act 1994** and to specify the rate of levy for 1995–96 and subsequent years.

The total levy payable in respect of a particular chemical product for 1995–96 and subsequent years is increased to $25 000. The form of search warrant to be used when there is a suspected offence under the Collection of Levy Act is also prescribed.
The Agricultural and Veterinary Chemical Products (Collection of Levy) Amendment Regulations 2000 (No. 1) [Statutory Rules 2000, No. 91] commenced on 1 June 2000 and amended the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemical Products (Collection of Levy) Regulations 1995 by reducing the rate of levy from 0.75% to 0.65% in respect of disposable sales after 1 January 1999.

The INTERIM COST RECOVERY REGULATIONS

The Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Collection of Interim Levy) Regulations [Statutory Rules 1994, No. 215] commenced on 1 July 1994 to prescribe the State laws under which an agricultural or veterinary chemical product is registered under the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemical Products (Collection of Interim Levy) Act 1994 and set the rate of levy for the interim levy imposed for 1994.

While previously approved actives being used in registered products are required to re-apply under the Code, no application fee is required if the application is made within six months (i.e. by 15 September 1995), full technical details of the active have previously been given to the NRA (or its predecessors), and the product in which the active is being used has been previously cleared for registration by the NRA (or was awaiting clearance as at 15 March 1995).

Repealed legislation

Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Act 1988 [No. 91 of 1988]

This Act, which commenced on 1 July 1989 and was repealed on 15 March 1995, established procedures for a uniform system of evaluating agricultural and veterinary chemical products to ascertain their suitability for use in Australia. When satisfied that the chemical product would not result in any unacceptable risk to people, the environment or Australia’s agricultural export trade, and that the product was effective for its permitted uses and accurately described, the regulatory authority issued a clearance enabling the product to be registered in the States and Territories for particular uses.

The Act was amended on 15 June 1993 by the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Amendment Act 1992 [No. 263 of 1992], which transferred the powers and functions of the NRA’s predecessor—the Australian Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Council—to the NRA.

Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Regulations [Statutory Rules 1989, No. 165]

These commenced on 1 July 1989 and were repealed on 15 March 1995. They declared certain chemical products to be either an agricultural or a veterinary chemical product and set the fees payable for making applications for clearance of chemical products.

Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Regulations (Amendment) [Statutory Rules 1992, No. 172]

These Regulations commenced on 1 July 1992 and were repealed on 15 March 1995. They amended SR 1989, No. 165 by deleting the schedules that had declared certain chemical products not to be either an agricultural or a veterinary chemical product.

Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Regulations (Amendment) [Statutory Rules 1994, No. 216]

These Regulations took effect from 1 July 1994 and were repealed on 15 March 1995. They amended SR 1989, No. 165 by providing for a new structure of fees payable when applying for clearance of an agricultural or a veterinary chemical product.
Community Consultative Committee

The Community Consultative Committee is the forum for two-way communication between the NRA and organisations that have an interest in regulation of agvet chemicals. Members of the committee provide advice and community views to the NRA and recommend ways to address areas of concern.

The committee informs the community of matters relating to agvet chemicals and reports to the NRA on the effects on the community of the use or misuse of agvet chemicals. The committee also makes recommendations to the NRA on any further work that might be undertaken to resolve issues of community concern relating to the regulation of agvet chemicals.

The Committee met three times during 2000–2001, in July, November and March. Some of the issues addressed by the Committee during the year included genetically modified organisms, risk assessment, and the chemical review program. The Committee also looked at the chemicals endosulfan, chlorpyrifos and rotenone.

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<th>TABLE D1: Membership of and attendance at Community Consultative Committee in 2000–2001</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Representative</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Professor Cameron Hazlehurst, Chair</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ms Margaret Alexandra</td>
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<td>Ms Dorothy Bowes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr Wayne Cornish</td>
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<td>Mr James Houlaian</td>
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<td>Mr Scott Kinear</td>
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<td>Mrs Jill Macaulay</td>
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<td>Mr Michael O’Reilly</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Secretary: Peter Horvat (02) 6272 3662
Industry Liaison Committee

The Industry Liaison Committee (ILC) is a forum for formal consultation and discussion with peak chemical industry stakeholders on NRA regulatory policies and programs, including registration, compliance and chemical review. Members also bring industry views on chemical issues and provide input to NRA planning processes. The ILC identifies opportunities for regulatory reform within the existing regulatory framework and provides a forum for the NRA to report formally to industry on performance.

Following a 1998–1999 review of the key NRA committees, the ILC was confirmed as the main consultative forum between the NRA and peak industry stakeholder groups representing registrants. It was agreed to hold three meetings a year, each with a specific purpose:

- **April**: to consider a detailed work plan on matters to be pursued through ILC in the next financial year
- **August**: the NRA’s main opportunity to report to industry on its performance
- **November**: industry’s main opportunity to contribute to NRA corporate planning.

Members comprised representatives from:

- Avcare Limited
- Australian Chemical Specialties Manufacturers Association
- Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council of Australia Ltd
- Swimming Pool and Spa Association of Australia
- Plastics and Chemicals Industries Association
- Aerosol Association of Australia
- Veterinary Manufacturers and Distributors Association.

The ILC met three times during 2000–2001, in August, November and April. At these meetings, the NRA consulted with industry and reported on a range of policy initiatives and operational activities. In addition, these meetings achieved numerous outcomes:

- Industry agreement or input into registration system improvements such as: revision of labelling codes; a new category of ‘low-risk’ products which will have reduced NRA requirements; NRA acceptance of pesticide applications in OECD format; NRA review of fees; NRA review of sulphonamide products; simultaneous NRA-AQIS public consultation process for vaccines; and NRA review of permits.
- Industry agreement or input into quality initiatives such as: NRA study of quality assurance practices for the manufacture of TGACs and chemical products; reporting of adverse incidents with agricultural chemical products; development of the NRA’s Manufacturers’ Licensing Scheme; NRA investigation of claims that chemical odour can affect health; and adoption of international veterinary guidelines (VICH).
- Industry input to NRA planning and communications such as: placing some NRA services on the internet; the NRA strategy of increasing advertising and displays in rural areas, and increasing printed NRA information.
- Consideration by the NRA of the role it can play in providing a compliance response to imports of agricultural and veterinary chemical products that do not comply with NRA legislation.
- Representations by industry to the Commonwealth Department of Health and Aged Care reviews of drugs, poisons and controlled substances legislation, and the administrative processes of the public health regulatory system.
Industry Technical Committee (ITC)

The Industry Technical Committee (ITC) supports the ILC by addressing technical issues affecting regulatory policy, programs and performance. Membership of ITC is drawn mainly from the same industry groups represented on the ILC.


The Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Evaluation Section provided secretariat support for each committee. The contact officer for ITC and ITC (Vet) is Sue Scales, telephone 02 6272 3744. The contact officer for ITC (Ag) is David Hutchison, telephone 02 6271 6384.

### TABLE D2: Membership of and attendance at ILC in 2000–2001

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Representative</th>
<th>Member organisation</th>
<th>Meetings eligible to attend</th>
<th>Meetings attended</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr Alison Turner, Chair</td>
<td>National Registration Authority</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Peter Holdsworth</td>
<td>Avcare Limited</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Colin Sharpe</td>
<td>Avcare Limited</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Simon Robinson</td>
<td>Avcare Limited</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Geoff Harris</td>
<td>Australian Chemical Specialties Manufacturers Association</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Bronwyn Capanna</td>
<td>Australian Chemical Specialties Manufacturers Association</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Neil McMahon</td>
<td>Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council of Australia Ltd</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Andrew Simons</td>
<td>Swimming Pool and Spa Association of Australia</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Bruce McAllen</td>
<td>Plastics and Chemicals Industries Association</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Lindsay Showyn</td>
<td>Aerosol Association of Australia</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr Philip Fleming</td>
<td>Aerosol Association of Australia</td>
<td>3</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Harvey Baker</td>
<td>Veterinary Manufacturers and Distributors Association</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Fred Bover</td>
<td>Veterinary Manufacturers and Distributors Association</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Mike Craft</td>
<td>Veterinary Manufacturers and Distributors Association</td>
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</table>

Secretary: David Hutchison, telephone (02) 6271 6384
**TABLE D3:** Membership of and attendance at ITC in 2000–2001

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Representative</th>
<th>Member organisation</th>
<th>Meetings eligible to attend</th>
<th>Meetings attended</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mr Peter Raphael (Chairman)</td>
<td>National Registration Authority</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Laura Lollback</td>
<td>Aerosol Association of Australia</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Kathy Nolan</td>
<td>Aerosol Association of Australia</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Geoff Harris</td>
<td>Australian Chemical Specialties Manufacturers Association</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ms Jan Amarusiya</td>
<td>Australian Chemical Specialties Manufacturers Association</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Craig Suann</td>
<td>Australian Racing Board</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr John Alexander</td>
<td>Australian Veterinary Association</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Norm Blackman</td>
<td>Australian Veterinary Association</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Colin Sharpe</td>
<td>Avcare</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Peter Holdsworth</td>
<td>Avcare</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr David Snow</td>
<td>Australian Veterinary in Industry</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Ian Urquhart</td>
<td>Australian Veterinary in Industry</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Tom Grimes</td>
<td>Australian Veterinary Poultry Association</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Peter Drummond</td>
<td>Plastics and Chemicals Industries Association</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Stephaine Leach</td>
<td>Plastics and Chemicals Industries Association</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Shane Walsh</td>
<td>Pet Food Industry Association of Australia</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Neil McMahon</td>
<td>Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council of Australia Ltd</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Greg O’Connell</td>
<td>Swimming Pool and Spa Association of Australia</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Andrew Simons</td>
<td>Swimming Pool and Spa Association of Australia</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Brian Priestly</td>
<td>Therapeutics Goods Administration</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Fred Bover</td>
<td>Veterinary Manufacturers and Distributors Association</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Bill Blackhall</td>
<td>Veterinary Manufacturers and Distributors Association</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Mike Craft</td>
<td>Veterinary Manufacturers and Distributors Association</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Harvey Baker</td>
<td>Veterinary Manufacturers and Distributors Association</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Ross Henderson</td>
<td>Veterinary Manufacturers and Distributors Association</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TABLE D4:** Resolutions and key outcomes from ITC meetings in 2000–2001

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meetings and location</th>
<th>Number of resolutions</th>
<th>Key outcomes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 4th ITC held on 2 August 2000 in Canberra | 4                     | Establishment of working group to draft minor formulation guidelines for agricultural chemical products  
Submission received requesting changes to NRA Notification |
| 5th ITC held on 11 April 2001 in Canberra  | 3                     | NRA advised members of major changes to FAISD and agreed to implementation    |
### TABLE D5: Membership of and attendance at ITC (Vet) meetings in 2000–2001

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Representative</th>
<th>Member organisation</th>
<th>Meetings eligible to attend</th>
<th>Meetings attended</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr Max Darvill (Chairman)</td>
<td>National Registration Authority</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Geoff Harris</td>
<td>Australian Chemical Specialties Manufacturers Association</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Jan Amarusiya</td>
<td>Australian Chemical Specialties Manufacturers Association</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Craig Suann</td>
<td>Australian Racing Board</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr John Alexander</td>
<td>Australian Veterinary Association</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Norm Blackman</td>
<td>Australian Veterinary Association</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Peter Holdsworth</td>
<td>Avcare</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr David Snow</td>
<td>Australian Veterinary in Industry</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Ian Urquhart</td>
<td>Australian Veterinary in Industry</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Tom Grimes</td>
<td>Australian Veterinary Poultry Association</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Shane Walsh</td>
<td>Pet Food Industry Association of Australia</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Neil McMahon</td>
<td>Plastics and Chemicals Industries Association</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Brian Priestly</td>
<td>Therapeutic Goods Administration</td>
<td>2</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Fred Bover</td>
<td>Veterinary Manufacturers and Distributors Association</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Bill Blackhall</td>
<td>Veterinary Manufacturers and Distributors Association</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Mike Craft</td>
<td>Veterinary Manufacturers and Distributors Association</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Harvey Baker</td>
<td>Veterinary Manufacturers and Distributors Association</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Ross Henderson</td>
<td>Veterinary Manufacturers and Distributors Association</td>
<td>1</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### TABLE D6: Resolutions and key outcomes from ITC (Vet) meetings in 2000–2001

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meetings and location</th>
<th>Number of resolutions</th>
<th>Key outcomes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4th ITC (Vet) held on 2 August 2000 in Canberra</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Working group for herbal-neutraceutical products and cosmetic products for companion animals established Issue of Poison 6 scheduling of feed additives discussed NRA and industry discussed issue of prebiotics being included in Therapeutic Pet Food Guidelines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th ITC (Vet) held on 11 April 2001 in Canberra</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>NRA advised of intent to prepare guideline on extension of shelf-life as per discussion with industry NRA raised veterinary residue issues for comment by industry</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Registration Liaison Committee

The Registration Liaison Committee (RLC) coordinates the registration and permit functions of the Commonwealth, and the control of use functions of the States and Territories, under the National Registration Scheme (NRS). RLC provides technical advice and the Signatories Working Group oversights the day-to-day operations of the NRS by the NRA, Commonwealth agencies, and the States and Territories. The Committee works to ensure a uniform approach to registration and permit requirements, compliance monitoring of the supply of agricultural and veterinary chemicals, State and Territory controls over use, chemical reviews and implementation of review outcomes.

RLC meets bi-annually, with meetings held in October 2000 and April 2001.

The States and Territories also held Control of Use Working Group meetings in conjunction with RLC. The NRA provided meeting facilities and attended the Working Group as an observer. Matters before RLC in 2000–2001 included:

- current activity, performance and continuous improvement of the Registration, Permit, Compliance and Chemical Review Programs;
- State, Territory, Commonwealth agency and New Zealand regulatory activity reports;
- the exchange of information and outcomes from other NRA committees, the NRS Signatories Working Group, Codex Pesticide Residues Committee, the Standing Committee on Agriculture and Resource Management, Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Policy Committee, the Agriculture and Resource Management Council of Australia and New Zealand, the Advisory Committee on Pesticides and Health, the Plant Health Committee, Veterinary Committee and the Standing Committee on Fisheries and Aquaculture; and
- State, Territory, Commonwealth agency and New Zealand input to a range of other issues including:
  - international harmonisation of chemical classification and labelling systems,
  - proposed Environment Australia guidelines for the disposal of dipping solutions,
  - ANZECC Water Quality Guidelines recommendations, in particular, antifouling paints,
  - National Exposure Standards Reviews for Atmospheric Contaminants,
  - environmental assessment requirements for timber treatment products,
  - TGAC and agricultural chemical product quality assurance,
  - harmonisation of control of use,
  - uniform regulation of high-risk (S7) agvet chemicals,
  - State and Territory positions on trade risk assessment procedures,
  - the terms of State and Territory efficacy review agreements,
  - development of low-regulatory requirements, e.g. for pool chemicals and produce sanitisers,
  - concepts for chemical user training and accreditation,
  - crop chemical and livestock residue management standards,
  - Labelling Code revisions and development of label guidelines, and
  - pesticide odour mitigation strategies.

The Communication and Secretariat Section of NRA provides secretariat support to RLC. The contact is Mr Alan Hill on (02) 6272 5238.
**TABLE D7:** Membership of and attendance at RLC in 2000–2001

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Representative</th>
<th>Member organisation</th>
<th>Meetings eligible to attend</th>
<th>Meetings attended</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mr Greg Hooper, Chair</td>
<td>National Registration Authority</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Janine Goodwin</td>
<td>ACT Dept. of Urban Services</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Lee Cook</td>
<td>NSW Agriculture</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Jane Mallen-Cooper</td>
<td>NSW Environment Protection Authority</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr John Alcock</td>
<td>NT Department of Primary Industry and Fisheries</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Cassie Wright</td>
<td>Qld Department of Primary Industries</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr John Kassebaum</td>
<td>SA Department of Primary Industries</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Mike Norman</td>
<td>Tas. Department of Primary Industries, Water and Environment</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Karen Armitage (1)</td>
<td>Vic. Department of Natural Resources &amp; Environment</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Chris Sharpe</td>
<td>WA Agriculture</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr Andre Mayne</td>
<td>Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr Ian Reichstein</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>April 2001</em></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Jack Holland</td>
<td>Environment Australia</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Geoff Lovell</td>
<td>National Occupational Health and Safety Commission</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr Brian Priestly</td>
<td>Department of Health and Aged Care</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>vice: Mr Matthew O’Mullane Apr 2001</em></td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Bill Roberts (April 2001)</td>
<td>Plant Health Committee</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr Brian Pidford</td>
<td>NZ Ministry of Agriculture &amp; Forestry</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Kevin Dunn (vice: Mr Terry Nicholls Oct 2000 &amp; Apr 2001)</td>
<td>Veterinary Committee</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Paula Shoulder</td>
<td>Standing Committee on Fisheries and Aquaculture</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ms Joan Leary (from Apr 2001)</td>
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</table>

**Note:** (1) Replaced Mr Chris May who also attended Oct 2000.
NRA Manufacturers’ Licensing Scheme Liaison Committee

The Manufacturers’ Licensing Scheme Liaison Committee provides an opportunity for the NRA to discuss MLS strategic and operational issues with industry representatives. The Committee met twice in 2000–01, topics of discussion including:

- progress with auditing and licensing of veterinary chemical manufacturers;
- criteria for audit frequency;
- the role for auditors in reviewing corrective actions and closing off audits;
- guidelines and procedures for the extension of shelf-life for individual batches of product about to expire, in consultation with other sections of the NRA; and
- operation and management of the various existing Mutual Recognition Agreements and proposed new ones.

**TABLE D8: Membership of and attendance at MLC Liaison Committee in 2000–2001**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Representative</th>
<th>Member organisation</th>
<th>Meetings eligible to attend</th>
<th>Meetings attended</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mrs Fatima Beattie (Chair, 1/8/00)</td>
<td>National Registration Authority</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Bruce Johnson (Chair, 10/4/01)</td>
<td>National Registration Authority</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Graham Savage</td>
<td>National Registration Authority</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs Kathy Winterton</td>
<td>National Registration Authority</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Peter Holdsworth</td>
<td>Avcare</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Ian Wheatley</td>
<td>Avcare</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Harvey Baker</td>
<td>Veterinary Manufacturers and Distributor’s Association</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Bill Blackhall</td>
<td>Veterinary Manufacturers and Distributor’s Association</td>
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<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Mike Craft</td>
<td>Veterinary Manufacturers and Distributor’s Association</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Bruce Graham</td>
<td>Auditors’ representative</td>
<td>2</td>
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Secretaries: Louise James (10/4/01) and Nikki Darby (1/8/00)

Residue Advisory Committee

This committee provides expert technical advice to the NRA on issues and policy associated with chemical residues in food. Members of the Committee met in November 2000 to discuss a range of veterinary residue issues. Advice and comment on other residue issues was also sought out of session during the year.

**TABLE D9: Membership of Residue Advisory Committee in 2000–2001**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Member</th>
<th>Organisation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr Trevor Doust, Chair</td>
<td>National Registration Authority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Dennis Hamilton</td>
<td>Queensland Department of Primary Industries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Tom McEwan</td>
<td>Consultant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Robert Belcher</td>
<td>Consultant</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Secretary: Dr Trevor Doust, ph. (02) 6272 3208
Meat Consultative Committee

This Committee is a forum for consultation with the red meat industry and the NRA on product registration and trade issues. It is an important link between growers, exporters and the chemical industry.

Throughout the year, NRA liaised with Meat and Livestock Australia on the trade implications of product registration and regulation. Following consultation with representatives of Avcare, the cattle industry, Meat and Livestock Australia, the Australian Quarantine Inspection Service (AQIS) and the National Residue Survey during 1999–2000, the NRA began work this year on Stockfeed Guidelines that will help to minimise residues associated with cattle grazing pastures and crops treated with chemicals.

TABLE D10: Membership of Meat Consultative Committee in 2000–2001

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Organization</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mr Greg Hooper (Chair)</td>
<td>National Registration Authority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Tony Britt</td>
<td>Agriculture Victoria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Angelo Valois</td>
<td>Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Peter Klein</td>
<td>Sheepmeat Council of Australia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Steve McCutcheon</td>
<td>Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry–Australia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr David Palmer</td>
<td>Meat and Livestock Australia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Justin Toohey</td>
<td>Cattlecare</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Norm Blackman</td>
<td>Meat and Livestock Australia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Dan Byrne</td>
<td>NSW Agriculture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Mike Hill</td>
<td>Cattle Council of Australia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr William Hetherington</td>
<td>Australian Meat Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Rod Hadwen</td>
<td>Australian Lot Feeders Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Jonathon Webber</td>
<td>National Residues Survey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Colin Sharp</td>
<td>Avcare Limited</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary: Dr Trevor Doust, ph. (02) 6272 3208</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NCRIS External Users Group

No meetings of the National Chemical Registration Information System (NCRIS) were held during 2000–2001.
Appendix E: **Freedom of information**

Section 8 of the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (the ‘FoI Act’) requires each Commonwealth agency subject to the Act to publish detailed information on its organisation, functions and powers, and on arrangements for public involvement in the formulation of agency policy or administration of any enactment or scheme. This statement, together with the information contained in this report, is intended to meet the requirements of the FoI Act.

**Organisation and structure**

The NRA operates nationally under the direction of a Board of Directors. Further details about the NRA Board are in the Introduction and at Appendix A. There is also an organisation chart in the Introduction.

The NRA’s offices are situated in Canberra at:

**Postal Address**
PO Box E240
Kingston ACT 2604

**Street Address**
Ground Floor, John Curtin House
22 Brisbane Avenue
Barton ACT 2601

**NRA’s functions and powers**

The NRA is responsible for assessing and registering agvet chemical products proposed for supply and use in Australia, and controls them up to the point of retail sale.

The NRA has functions and powers that are conferred upon it by the *Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Act 1992* (as amended), by the Agvet Code and the Agvet Regulations, and by a law of a State.

**Functions**

The NRA’s functions are:

- to assess the suitability for sale in Australia of active constituents for proposed or existing chemical products, registered chemical products and labels for containers for chemical products;
- to provide information to the governments and authorities of the Commonwealth, States and participating Territories about approved active constituents for proposed or existing chemical products, registered chemical products and approved labels for such products, and to cooperate with those governments and authorities on matters relating to the management and control of chemical products;
- to keep records and statistics of approvals and registrations it has granted, and permits and licences it has issued, under the Agvet Codes;
- to evaluate the effects of the use of chemical products in the States and participating Territories;
- to cooperate with governments and authorities of the Commonwealth, States and participating Territories, to facilitate a consistent approach to the assessment and control of chemicals;
- in cooperation with governments and authorities of the Commonwealth, States and participating Territories, to develop codes of practice, standards and guidelines for, and to recommend precautions to be taken in connection with, the manufacture, export, import, sale, handling, possession, storage, disposal and use of chemical products in the States and participating Territories;
- to collect, interpret, disseminate and publish information relating to chemical products and their use;
- to encourage and facilitate the application and use of results of evaluation and testing of chemical products;
- to exchange information relating to chemical products and their use with overseas and
international bodies having functions similar to those of the NRA;
• when requested by the Minister, or on its own initiative, to report to or advise the Minister on any matter relating to chemical products or arising in the course of the performance of its functions;
• to encourage and facilitate the introduction of uniform national procedures for control of the use of chemical products; and
• to fund, and cooperate in, a program designed to ensure that active constituents for proposed or existing chemical products, registered chemical products, and labels for containers for chemical products, comply with the Agvet Codes and the Agvet Regulations.

Powers
The NRA has powers to do all that is necessary or convenient to be done in connection with the performance of its functions, which may include:
• entering into contracts;
• acquiring, holding and disposing of real and personal property;
• occupying, using and controlling any land or building owned or held under lease by the Commonwealth, a State or a Territory and made available for the purposes of the NRA;
• appointing agents and attorneys;
• making manuals and other documents available to the public either without charge or upon payment of a fee; and
• doing anything incidental to any of its powers.

Ministerial powers
In accordance with section 10 of the enabling legislation, the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Act 1992, the Commonwealth Minister responsible for administering agvet chemicals legislation may direct the NRA in writing in relation to the functions or powers that have been conferred on it under applicable Commonwealth or State laws. The NRA must comply with any such direction. During 2000–2001, the Minister gave no such direction.

Access to information
The following information may be supplied (but see the ‘confidential information’ heading below), in response to an application under the FoI Act:
• data packages provided by registration applicants for evaluation of agvet chemical products;
• NRA files on specific chemical evaluations and on a range of topics relating to NRA operations and functions; and
• meeting papers, briefs, minutes, and resolutions of decisions of the NRA Board and consultative committees.

Website
Information on the NRA’s structure, functions, powers and publications may be obtained via the internet. The NRA’s home page is at http://www.nra.gov.au.

Public registers
The NRA maintains databases to store, manipulate and record product applications, to track submissions, and for product registration details, financial records, mailings and other information. Some information, such as staff details, and industry and stakeholder contact details, is stored on databases.

Access to the following public registers is possible by arrangement, by visiting the NRA offices, or through the NRA’s website:
• PUBCRIS (for information on numbers and approved uses of registered agvet chemical products);
• permits for agricultural and veterinary chemicals; and
• TGACs.

Files and records
The NRA maintains files on specific chemicals and on a range of topics relating to NRA operations and functions.
Agreements, protocols, criteria and guidelines on operation of the clearance and registration process and the development of technical data are also maintained.

The NRA also retains technical information in the form of individual product applications.

**NRA publications**

The NRA produces a range of publications on the National Registration Scheme and related matters. These publications are in the areas of:

- **general information**
  - NRA News (quarterly newsletter)
  - *Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Gazette* (monthly Commonwealth Government gazette)
  - NRA fact sheets
  - NRA community briefs
  - NRA Corporate Plan and Operational Plan
  - NRA Annual Report
  - NRA Service Charter
  - media releases

- **agricultural registration requirements series**

- **labelling code of practice**

- **guidelines on agricultural chemicals**
  - guidelines on veterinary chemicals
  - guidelines on chemistry and manufacture
  - specific guidelines
  - efficacy and safety guidelines

- **setting maximum residue limits**

- **guidelines for recall of agricultural and veterinary chemicals**

- **review of chemicals**

- **good manufacturing practice**

- **reporting adverse experiences with chemicals**

- **agricultural and veterinary chemical public release summaries.**

**Copies of publications**

Copies of publications may be obtained by contacting:

**Communications and Secretariat Section**
Ph: (02) 6272 3794 Fax: (02) 6272 5811
Email: nra.contact@nra.gov.au

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**Confidential information**

Some NRA documents, particularly individual chemical product applications, contain confidential commercial information (as defined in the FOI Act) and may not be divulged except in accordance with the provisions of section 162 of the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code scheduled to the *Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Act 1994.*

**Public consultation**

Special consideration is given to the NRA's consultative mechanisms with the agvet chemicals industry and other relevant specialised industry sectors and community groups.

The NRA has a general policy of making itself accessible to industry associations and community organisations, regularly inviting interested parties to meet with the Board or its other committees. It consults on a regular basis with a wide range of groups and organisations with relevant interests and maintains close contact with rural and service industries, researchers and other government agencies with an interest in agricultural and veterinary chemicals. For more detail on the NRA's consultative framework, see Appendix D.

**Requests for information under the FoI Act in 2000–2001**

Seven requests for information under the FoI Act were received during 2000–2001.

Requests for access to documents under the FoI Act can be made by writing (with the associated application fee) to:

**FOI Coordinator**
National Registration Authority
PO Box E240
Kingston ACT 2604

The power to grant or refuse access to NRA documents is held by each of the executive managers. The CEO has internal review powers. Initial inquiries may be made by telephoning (02) 6272 3756.
Appendix F: **NRA staffing overview**

The NRA had 124 staff on 30 June 2001. The total staffing of the Authority according to full- and part-time status and temporary status is shown in Table F1.

Staff movements, including appointments, resignations, retirements, retrenchments, redundancies and dismissals appear at Table F2.

### TABLE F1: NRA staffing at 30 June 2001

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classification</th>
<th>Full time (permanent)</th>
<th>Part time (permanent)</th>
<th>Temporary</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Executive</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior management</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band 6</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band 5</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band 4</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band 3</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band 2</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band 1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>112</strong></td>
<td><strong>4</strong></td>
<td><strong>8</strong></td>
<td><strong>124</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### TABLE F2: Permanent staff movements at NRA in 2000–2001

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classification</th>
<th>Separated</th>
<th>Recruited</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Executive</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior management</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band 6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band 5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band 4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band 3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band 2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band 1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>7</strong></td>
<td><strong>21</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Workplace Diversity**

The NRA is committed to maintaining the excellence and diversity of its staff. To ensure this occurs the Authority has developed a single policy framework to combine the existing Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Program with a new Workplace Diversity (WD) Program.

Workplace diversity maintains the basic principles of EEO ensuring that the employment related disadvantage of women, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, people of non-English speaking background and people with disabilities are considered.

Workplace diversity however goes beyond rectifying disadvantage and correcting past actions. Managing diversity builds upon the foundation of EEO but goes a step further to ensure each organisation develops human resource management strategies to value and accommodate differences in the background, perspectives and family responsibilities of employees. Workplace diversity acknowledges the positive contribution a diverse workforce can make to an organisation. By embracing workplace diversity the NRA will maximise the skills of its staff and their diverse backgrounds.

A breakdown of staffing by gender appears in Table F3, and a profile of the staff according to representation of EEO groups appears at Table F4.

### Table F3: NRA staffing by gender, at 30 June 2001

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classification</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Total staff</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Executive</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior management</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band 6</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band 5</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band 4</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band 3</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band 2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band 1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>124</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Table F4: EEO profile of NRA staff, at 30 June 2001 (1)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classification</th>
<th>People of non-English speaking background</th>
<th>People with a disability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Executive</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior management</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band 6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band 5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band 4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band 3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band 2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band 1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** (1) Based on voluntary disclosure of EEO information by staff.
**Occupational Health and Safety**

The NRA has continued to display a strong commitment to OHS throughout the financial year, with an emphasis on actively managing our OHS obligations.

Achievements for this year include:
- completion of actions resulting from a previous Comcare Planned Investigation;
- two workplace inspections undertaken with health and safety representatives;
- review of OHS Agreement and Policies to ensure compliance with legislation and agency requirements;
- workplace assessments provided for all new staff and other staff as requested;
- development of new OHS forms for reporting accidents, incidents and hazards;
- development of a Health Week program for all staff;
- review of first aid officers and services;
- review of fire wardens and fire safety aspects of current accommodation; and
- few reportable accidents and dangerous occurrences (see Table F5).

**Commonwealth Disability Strategy**

Given that the Commonwealth Disability Strategy is a new reporting requirement, the NRA is still in the process of developing appropriate performance indicators and measures. Therefore, the NRA is not in a position to provide comprehensive reporting in this annual report.

However, all NRA’s Management Practices will be reviewed to take account of the requirements of the Commonwealth Disability Strategy. Some of these requirements have already been incorporated into the Workplace Diversity Plan, for example, the elimination of workplace discrimination.

**TABLE F5:** Reportable accident and dangerous occurrences in NRA in 2000–2001

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accidents resulting in death</td>
<td>Nil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accidents causing serious personal injury</td>
<td>Nil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accidents causing incapacity of five days or more</td>
<td>Nil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dangerous occurrences not resulting in death, serious personal injury or incapacity</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Appendix G: Consultancies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Consultant</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Business Catalyst</td>
<td>Advice in the development of the IT Strategic Plan</td>
<td>34,740.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CITEC</td>
<td>E-Commerce Initiatives</td>
<td>100,785.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CEO Collegiate</td>
<td>Advice to the Board of Directors on governance issues</td>
<td>23,475.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heaney Blaylock &amp; Associates</td>
<td>Provision of expert industrial relations advice throughout Certified Agreement negotiations</td>
<td>25,476.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workplace Research Associates</td>
<td>Development of staff survey and analysis</td>
<td>22,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Systems Pty Ltd</td>
<td>IT Projects</td>
<td>35,507.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solutions Marketing &amp; Research Group</td>
<td>Industry Survey of Australian Veterinary Manufacturers</td>
<td>17,625.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solutions Marketing &amp; Research Group</td>
<td>Benchmark Stakeholder Awareness Survey</td>
<td>70,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jennifer David &amp; Associates</td>
<td>Team Building</td>
<td>11,075.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great Southern Communications</td>
<td>Production of Corporate Video</td>
<td>18,302.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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