



September 15, 2017

File: 44200-60 BHEC

DELIVERED BY E-MAIL

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Dear Sirs/Mesdames:

**REGULATION OF ASIAN HATCHING EGG PRODUCTION SUPERVISORY REVIEW
– EXTENSION REQUEST**

On September 12, 2017, the BC Hatching Egg Commission's (Commission) requested a two week extension to the original submission schedule established by the BC Farm Industry Review Board (BCFIRB) on August 25, 2017¹. Subsequently, BCFIRB received a letter dated September 12, 2017 from the legal counsel representing several Asian hatching egg producers asking the extension not be granted.

The Commission reports that it is unable to immediately address BCFIRB's questions due to resource availability, meeting schedules (its own and with the BC Chicken Marketing Board) required to provide a response, and time conflicts with other priorities for Commission members and staff.

The letter from the legal counsel representing several Asian hatching egg producers sets out that further delay would be prejudicial to their businesses and the industry as a whole. The letter goes on to note that the appellants have not had a meaningful hearing before BCFIRB to date, and that this is not the first extension sought by the Commission.

¹ 2017 Aug 25. BCFIRB. [Regulation of Asian Hatching Egg Production Supervisory Review – BC Farm Industry Review Board Questions](#).

**British Columbia
Farm Industry Review Board**

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As rightly pointed out by the Asian hatching egg producers, developing an effective and strategic regulatory framework has taken several years. This situation arose for a variety of reasons. BCFIRB's primary concern is that the outcome of the supervisory review fulfills sound marketing policy.

The immediate biosecurity and food safety risks to the hatching egg and other poultry sectors have been addressed or are in process of being addressed. The BCFIRB's panel position is that if a two week extension will support a sound and full response from the Commission it is prepared to grant the extension.

Recognizing the Asian hatching egg producer concerns about their industry, BCFIRB encourages them to finalize all biosecurity and food safety audits as soon as possible.

The August 25, 2017 submission schedule is amended as follows:

Submission Process and Schedule

1. Commission response to BCFIRB questions. **Due by 4:30pm September 29, 2017**
2. All stakeholders, including the appellants Skye Hi, V3 Farms, W Friesen Enterprises, Bradner Farms and Coastline Chicks – provide any legal, factual or policy issues arising out from the Commissions' June 28, 2017 recommendations and the Commissions' response to the panels questions in this letter. **Due by 4:30pm October 13, 2017**
3. Final reply by the Commission. **Due by 4:30pm October 20, 2017**

Once the supervisory panel receives the Commission's submissions and the submissions of stakeholders, we will determine what, if any, further steps are necessary before issuing a final supervisory decision.

Yours truly,



Daphne Stancil
Presiding Member

Cc: BCFIRB website