

AMPG REFORM PROPOSALS

The AMPG has suggested the following solutions to address the key flaws in the current cattle industry structure:

- combining the Cattle Council policy setting role with the MLA service provider role under one roof to ensure the seamless delivery of policy and a well funded peak council to interact with government;
- in other words, instead of having the MLA as the service provider for the cattle industry with CCA as the overseeing policy setter, bring the two functions together in one body to create a similar policy setting and service delivery structure to those found in the egg and pork industries;
- a combined “CCA/MLA” cattle producer Cattle Corporation of Australia would (initially at least) receive the best part of \$56M a year in grass fed cattle producer levies plus approximately \$8M in lot fed levies;
- the board of the proposed new combined policy setting and delivery Cattle Corporation would be directly elected by levy payers through a dual register voting system to balance the interests of both the large and small cattle producers;
- every levy payer would have a vote in each of the voting registers; and
- each voting register would elect half of the new Cattle Corporation’s board members;
- with one register carrying ‘one-man, one-vote’ and the other based on the amount of levies paid, with every levy payer entitled to vote in both registers similar to the Australian Meat Processor Corporation (AMPC) two register voting system;
- the dual register voting system would:
 - ensure that the little producers who outnumber the big would not be able to dictate how the levies were spent while simultaneously stopping the smaller number of big players having a disproportionate impact on the outcome;
 - "self manage" the perceived need for north and south regional representation on the board of the new corporation with the large population of smaller producers in the south dominating the ‘one-man, one-vote’ register and northern producers with greater herd sizes (and hence greater levy payments) dominating the register based on the amount of levies paid;
- processors to be separately represented through a combined AMIC and AMPC levy funded corporation and not be part of the new combined Cattle Corporation;
- Sheep producers to be represented by their own combined “SCA/MLA” Sheep Corporation.