



Meat Industry Association of New Zealand (Incorporated)

Submission on:

## **Consultation on Industry Skills Boards' Coverage**

20 May 2025

### **1. Introduction**

- 1) The Meat Industry Association (MIA) is a voluntary, membership-based organisation representing processors, marketers, and exporters of New Zealand red meat, rendered products, and hides and skins. MIA represents 99 percent of domestic red meat production and exports. With export revenues of \$9.86 billion (2024), the red meat industry is New Zealand's second largest goods exporter.
- 2) The meat processing sector is New Zealand's largest manufacturing sector that employs over 25,000 people in about 60 processing plants, located mainly in the regions. The sector is a significant employer in many of New Zealand's rural communities and contributes over \$4 billion in household income.
- 3) A list of members is attached (Appendix A). In drafting this submission MIA members were consulted. Individual members, however, may have also made their own submissions.

## 2. Overview

- 4) MIA welcomes the opportunity to comment on the coverage of Industry Skills Boards (ISBs).
- 5) The meat industry is New Zealand's largest manufacturing sector that employs over 23,470 people across more than 60 meat processing and rendering plants, many of which are in rural and provincial areas. NZIER<sup>1</sup> and MPI forecast continued growth across our members' workforces out to 2032.
- 6) To meet this demand, meat processors will require employees with a range of skills including increasing focus on more highly skilled workers, especially managers and semi-autonomous workers who are savvy with digital technology, quality control and environmental practices.
- 7) However, training and assessment of competency for workers in medium-skilled roles forms the core of formal vocational training and development in the meat industry. This training is delivered at significant cost to employers and is assessed by colleagues 'on the job'. In most cases, this cannot be replicated in a classroom.
- 8) MIA expects that reform of the vocational education and training system will make it more responsive to the needs of industry and drive increases in New Zealand's productivity.

## 3. Consultation questions

*Do you support the proposal to establish seven Industry Skills Boards?*

- 9) MIA considers the industry groupings evident in the coverage of the proposed ISBs reasonable.
- 10) MIA is interested to understand the proposed rationale for the allocation of funding to each ISB, noting that the coverage of industries in the manufacturing and technology ISB appears greater than for other proposed ISBs.

*What aspects of the proposal do you support?*

- 11) MIA supports the intent of reform to make ISBs more responsive to the needs of industries.
- 12) MIA is also satisfied that meat processing has been assigned to the manufacturing and technology ISB.

*What aspects of the proposal do you have concerns about?*

- 13) MIA is very concerned by the reduction in public funding for vocational education and training, signalled by these proposals and in other communications.

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<sup>1</sup> NZIER. 2023. [Workforce in Red Meat and Wool: results from supplemental modelling](#). A report for Ministry for Primary Industries.

- 14) MIA is content that ISBs may be expected to focus on core activities and industry priorities, potentially at the expense of other projects that the WDCs engaged in, but no discussion of what ISBs will do less of, or not do, is presented.
- 15) The proposals indicate that the ISBs will have the ability to charge learning providers for moderation and other activities. However, no commentary is presented about what impact this may have on learning providers, nor how those costs are expected to flow through the system, i.e. who will actually end up paying them?
- 16) MIA is strongly opposed to mandatory levies on employers being introduced to fund work-based learning.
- 17) MIA wishes to see more clarification provided regarding the role of ISBs in endorsing training programmes relative to the role NZQA in approving qualifications for the NZ Qualifications Framework.

*Do you have any feedback relating to a specific industry (and which)?*

- 18) MIA wishes to understand how the TEC intends to ultimately apportion the assets of the work-based learning subdivisions of Te Pukenga.
- 19) In particular, MIA and its members have invested substantial resources into developing learner guides, assessor guides and other materials. This intellectual property is owned by the meat industry and a solution needs to be adopted which fully recognises this.

*If your industry is covered by one of the seven ISBs, how supportive are you of the decision to assign your industry to that ISB?*

- 20) MIA is content that meat processing has been assigned to the manufacturing and technology ISB.

## **MIA Contact**

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20 May 2025

## Appendix 1

### MIA members and affiliate members as at 17 February 2025

Members	
Advance Marketing Limited Exporter Membership	Waimarie Meats Partnership
AFFCO NZ Ltd - Membership Levy	Wallace Group LP
Alliance Group Limited	Wilbur Ellis NZ Ltd
Ample Group Limited	Wilmar Trading (Australia) Pty Ltd
ANZCO Foods Ltd	
Ashburton Meat Processors Limited	
Auckland Meat Processors	Affiliate Members
Bakels Edible Oils (NZ) Ltd	Abattoirs Association of NZ
Ballande NZ Ltd	AgResearch
Black Origin Meat Processors	Alfa Laval New Zealand Ltd
Blue Sky Meats (NZ) Limited	Americold NZ Ltd
Columbia Exports Ltd	Aon New Zealand Ltd
Crusader Meats	AsureQuality NZ Ltd
Davmet NZ Limited	AusPac Ingredients NZ Ltd
Fern Ridge Ltd	Beca Ltd
Firstlight Foods Limited	Centreport Wellington
Garra International Limited	CMA CGM Group Agencies (NZ) Ltd
GrainCorp Commodity Management	CoolTranz 2014 Ltd
Greenlea Premier Meats	G-Tech Separation - Bellmor Engineering
Harrier Exports Ltd	Global Life Sciences Solutions New Zealand
Intergrated Foods Consortium	Haarslev Industries New Zealand
Kintyre Meats Ltd	Hapag-Lloyd (New Zealand) Ltd
Lean Meats Oamaru	IBEX Industries Limited
Lowe Corporation Ltd	Intralox LLC
Mathias NZ Limited	Kemin Industries Ltd
Ovation NZ Ltd	Liquistore
Peak Commodities Limited	Maersk A/S
Prime Range Meats	MJI Universal Pte Ltd
Progressive Meats Limited	Oceanic Navigation Ltd
PVL Proteins Ltd	Port of Napier
SBT Marketing (2009) Ltd	Port of Otago Ltd
Silver Fern Farms Ltd	Pyramid Trucking Ltd
Standard Commodities NZ Limited	Rendertech
Taylor Preston Limited	SCL Products Limited
Te Kuiti Meat Processors Limited	Scott Technology Ltd
UBP Limited	Sealed Air - Cryovac
Value Proteins Ltd	Suncorp New Zealand Services Limited