

MEDIA RELEASE

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POSITIVE ACTION BY NSW GOVERNMENT

The Cattle Council of Australia has welcomed the announcement by the NSW Government that 3 million NLIS devices will be made available to NSW cattle producers at a reduced rate of \$2.60, which is up to \$1 cheaper per device than the price currently being paid by producers in that state.

Cattle Council President Bill Bray says, "The NSW Government's actions to reduce the cost of NLIS devices, follows State Government initiatives in Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia. It is time that the other State Governments in Queensland, Tasmania and the Northern Territory paid greater attention to reducing the cost of NLIS devices to cattle producers in their State."

"We will soon see the situation where Queensland, Northern Territory and Tasmanian cattle producers are paying up to \$1 more for their NLIS devices than producers in other states, because their State Governments failed to take the initiative. These producers will then quite rightly be asking their State Government why they have not acted."

"The Cattle Council and its member organisations, such as NSW Farmers Association, have been calling on Governments to think laterally about how they can reduce the cost of NLIS devices to cattle producers. The Cattle Council considers that the NLIS is a partnership between producers, State and Federal Government, therefore the issue of cost of NLIS devices is an issue for governments as well as producers."

Mr Bray also says "The Cattle Council is hoping to progress discussions with the Federal Government in the very near future on the commitment given during the Federal election of \$20 million to assist producers with the cost of the NLIS. The commitment from the Coalition for NLIS, in response to submissions from the Cattle Council, was very well received by cattle producers during the Federal election. With the NLIS implementation beginning in many States at the end of June, the Cattle Council is seeking to have details on the \$20 million Federal Government funding resolved with some urgency."

For further information contact:

Bill Bray, President, Ph. 0429 307 561 or Brett de Hayr, Executive Director, Ph 0418 165 340

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Cattle Council of Australia Incorporated (A2929)
PO Box E10 KINGSTON ACT 2604 Ph: 02 6273 3688 Fax: 02 6273 2397
E-mail: cca@cattlecouncil.com.au Web: www.cattlecouncil.com.au

