



24D034

14 March 2024

Hon Clare Scriven
Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development
Per email: Minister.Scriven@sa.gov.au

Dear Minister,

Re: Livestock Underpass Grants Scheme

The Livestock Underpass Grants Scheme has been welcomed by the South Australian Dairy Industry broadly although for a number of reasons that have been previously discussed, the scheme has been impacted by lower than anticipated numbers of applications.

The costs associated with the installation of Livestock Underpasses has risen since COVID in line with many construction projects, however SADA believes that the current grant remains appropriate in most cases. The scheme has supported the installation of underpasses in a number of council areas in both the South East and the Central Region.

The installation of Underpasses on State roads is proving cost prohibitive. It is for this reason that we request that the grant available for installation be doubled where the underpass will see cows removed from Department for Infrastructure and Transport (DIT) managed roads. At present, the planning and compliance costs associated with the installation of an underpass below a DIT road sees that project cost exceed \$500,000, more than double the cost of an installation on a neighbouring council road.

A doubling of the grant would be commensurate with the level of public benefit achieved by separating vehicles and livestock on State managed roads and would allow at least two projects to proceed which are likely to otherwise fail.

LUPS is capped in terms of the Government's commitment to the amount of money which is earmarked for the program. SADA is not seeking that further money be applied to the scheme, but rather, given the circumstances outlined above, merely allowing the scheme to be enhanced but only until the cap is reached.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please don't hesitate to contact either myself or our CEO, Andrew Curtis.

Yours Sincerely,

Robert Brokenshire
President