



**Telephone:** 020 7238 5755

**Web:** [www.defra.gov.uk](http://www.defra.gov.uk)

**Date:** 9 August 2011

Dear Consultee

### **Consultation on amendments to The Welfare of Animals (Slaughter or Killing) Regulations 1995 (WASK)**

1. I am writing to invite views on a proposal to make changes to The Welfare of Animals (Slaughter or Killing) Regulations 1995 (WASK) to:

- permit the use of a biphasic carbon dioxide gas mixture to kill poultry in slaughterhouses;
- extend the range of birds which may be killed on-farm by gas mixtures; and
- extend the time limit for bringing a prosecution under WASK.

2. The following documents may be found on Defra's website at:

[www.defra.gov.uk/consult/2011/08/09/animal-welfare-regulations/](http://www.defra.gov.uk/consult/2011/08/09/animal-welfare-regulations/)

- Consultation paper.
- Draft Statutory Instrument.
- Impact Assessment.

3. We welcome your views and comments on the proposals. If you wish to obtain a copy of this consultation then please contact Rob Peters at the address below.

### **Responses**

4. Please send responses to either:

Rob Peters  
Animal Welfare Team  
Defra  
Area 8B  
9 Millbank  
c/o 17 Smith Square  
London  
SW1P 3JR

Tel: 020 7238 5901

Or email: [animalwelfareconsultations@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:animalwelfareconsultations@defra.gsi.gov.uk)

5. Responses should be received by **20 September 2011**.

6. When this consultation ends, we intend to put a copy of the responses in the Defra library at Ergon House, London. This is so that the public can see them. Also, members of the public may ask for a copy of responses under freedom of information legislation.

7. If you do not want your response - including your name, contact details and any other personal information – to be publicly available, please say so clearly in writing when you send your response to the consultation. Please note, if your computer automatically includes a confidentiality disclaimer, that won't count as a confidentiality request.

8. Please explain why you need to keep details confidential. We will take your reasons into account if someone asks for this information under freedom of information legislation. But, because of the law, we cannot promise that we will always be able to keep those details confidential.

We will summarise all responses and place this summary on our website at <http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/consult/default.asp> . This summary will include a list of names of organisations that responded but not people's personal names, addresses or other contact details.

To see consultation responses and summaries, please contact the library at:

Defra  
Information Resource Centre  
Lower Ground Floor  
Ergon House  
17 Smith Square  
London  
SW1P 3JR

Telephone: 020-7238-6575

Email: [defra.library@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:defra.library@defra.gsi.gov.uk)

Please give the library 24 hours' notice. There is a charge for photocopying and postage.

9. If you have any comments or complaints about the consultation process, please address them to: Defra Consultation Co-ordinator, Area 7C Nobel House, 17 Smith Square, London SW1P 3JR, or email [consultation.coordinator@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:consultation.coordinator@defra.gsi.gov.uk).

10. Thank you for your help in this matter. If you have any queries please contact us as above.

Yours faithfully

Geoff Webdale

**Animal Welfare Team  
Area 8B  
9 Millbank, c/o Nobel House  
17 Smith Square  
London  
SW1P 3JR**