

# AUSTRALIAN HONEY BEE INDUSTRY COUNCIL INC

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## MEMO

As you would know the Australian Honey Bee Industry Council Inc. (AHBIC) passed a motion at the Annual General Meeting in July asking that the Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources, Barnaby Joyce, re-arrange the current honey levy. The re-arrangement requested is to increase the National Residue Survey component from 0.1 cents per kilogram to 0.3 cents per kilogram and reduce the Emergency Plant Pest Response levy from 2.9 cents per kilogram to 2.7 cents per kilogram. The total honey levy remains the same at 4.6 cents per kilogram.

A submission asking for the re-arrangement was sent to Minister Joyce on 21 July, 2017 and he has referred our submission to the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources for assessment. The Australian Government's *Levy Principles and Guidelines* provide for a six week period for lodging objections to a levy proposal. Accordingly, the formal period for objections will commence on Monday 21 August and expire at 5pm AEST on Monday 2 October 2017.

Levy payers wishing to object are asked to clearly outline which aspect of the levy proposal they are objecting to. They should also list reasons why they oppose the levy and provide suitable supporting argument and evidence, together with their contact details. Further information about making objections can be found on page 6 of the *Levy Principles and Guidelines* found at <http://www.agriculture.gov.au/SiteCollectionDocuments/ag-food/levies/documentsandreports/levy-principles-guidelines.pdf>

The AHBIC proposal, as presented at conferences, can be found on the AHBIC website at <http://honeybee.org.au/increase-in-the-national-residue-survey-component-of-the-honey-levy/> A copy of the submission to Minister Joyce can be obtained from the AHBIC Executive Director on request. Contact details are above.

Objections may be made in writing to the government through the department's Levy Revenue Service by email at [levies.management@agriculture.gov.au](mailto:levies.management@agriculture.gov.au) or by post at:-

Locked Bag 4488  
Kingston ACT 2604

Objections may also be made in writing through the Hon. Barnaby Joyce MP, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources by email at [minister@maff.gov.au](mailto:minister@maff.gov.au) or by post at:-

P.O. Box 6022  
House of Representatives  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600

Please circulate this Memo to anyone who you believe is a potential levy payer. It will be placed on the AHBIC website.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Trevor Weatherhead". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Trevor Weatherhead  
Executive Director  
21 August 2017