Minister Welcomes Cattle Ship Announcement

Minister for Asian Relations and Trade Rob Knight has left Vietnam today where he welcomed the news of 1000 head of cattle leaving Darwin for Hai Phong tomorrow.

Mr Knight is with a trade delegation and has met with several key Vietnamese Ministers and Vice Ministers this week in Hanoi as part of his push to continue increasing exports from the Northern Territory to Vietnam.

He also toured the feedlot in Hai Phong City where the cattle will be processed.

"Vietnam has a population of almost 90 million people and demand for imported products including meat has increased significantly in recent years," Mr Knight said.

"The Henderson Government continues to work towards establishing additional markets in South East Asia and that's why following the suspension of live cattle trade to Indonesia we enhanced our Trade Support Scheme.

“Under the Trade Support Scheme cattle industry peak bodies NTCA and NTLEA can claim back up to 80% for expenses incurred on trips to Vietnam and other developing markets to promote and market live cattle trade from the Northern Territory.”

Live cattle exports are an important contributor to export earnings for the Northern Territory.

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