



Department of
Primary Industries and
Regional Development

Protect
Grow
Innovate

Northern Truck Wash Down Facility

Expression of Interest

Guidelines

This guideline contains information for applicants and should be read prior to completing the application form

11/12/2024



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Northern Truck Wash Down Facility Scheme

1. Scheme Overview

Truck wash down facilities (TWDFs) play an important role in managing livestock biosecurity risks; from mitigating the risk of introduction of invasive plant species and endemic animal disease, to meeting market access requirements and to assist with control and eradication of an exotic disease outbreak.

The WA State Government has committed \$2.3 million to progress the development of two TWDFs, one in the north (Kimberley) and one in the south of the state.

Optimal biosecurity objectives for TWDFs are achieved when they are located close to supply chain nodes where livestock concentrate and co-mingle, such as saleyards, live export depots and abattoirs. However, any development should aim to improve industry biosecurity standards such as reducing the risk from invasive plant species and contribute to business as usual, protecting existing industry market access.

A maximum of \$1.3 million has been allocated by State Government to build the above components for a TWDF in the north. This will directly and indirectly support half the states cattle herd of approximately 1 million cattle (Kimberley and Pilbara). Any additional funding gap that is required to build a TWDF in the north will be the responsibility of the successful scheme applicant. The successful applicant will also be responsible for maintaining and running the TWDF and no additional financial support will be available from the State for this purpose.

In the north, approximately 100,000 head of cattle per annum are exported live out of the port of Broome predominantly to Indonesia, Israel, and Vietnam. Furthermore, Broome includes a biosecurity check point, annually clearing up to 40,000 head for road movement south for live export, backgrounding and processing. This makes the vicinity of Broome the most significant industry node and end of the supply chain destination for sighting of a northern TWDF within the Kimberley and Pilbara.

Over the five years between 2018-19 to 2022-23, 80% of live cattle exported from northern ports were exported from Broome, 18% from Wyndham and 2% from Port Hedland. The cleaning and disinfecting of livestock transport is currently required to support the live export of cattle and buffalo to Vietnam and feeder and slaughter cattle to Thailand.

Two studies have been conducted to specifically consider the feasibility for establishing a TWDF in the Kimberley. The studies provide information including analysis of potential sites, legislative and planning requirements, environmental and economic considerations, and ongoing maintenance and operator arrangements. The studies can be found via the following web link [Northern Beef Development | Agriculture and Food](#)

The key considerations and components in developing an EOI application to establish a TWDF include (but not limited to):

- Access to and availability of suitable land – appropriate tenure and adequate area to incorporate all TWDF infrastructure including access roads, wash bay/s, earthworks including drains and evaporation ponds, and cattle holding yards and

able to achieve adequate biosecurity stand-off distances to not impact other northern beef industry businesses.

- A TWDF must be an approved activity for the land under the current local government zoning.
- If a TWDF is to be integrated into existing industry infrastructure, then any changes or potential changes to the biosecurity status of the existing facilities are understood and accepted.
- All necessary development applications are lodged and approved, and regulatory operational and licensing approvals obtained, or applicants can demonstrate a pathway forward for approval
- The TWDF shall meet Government regulatory and industry standards and Australian Design specification requirements.
- The applicant's requirement to complete due diligence (feasibility and detailed design) of the capital costs to design and build a TWDF in the north.
- An understanding of the required operational costs, profitability and workforce model requirements to successfully operate a TWDF in the north.
- Use Project Management to deliver the TWDF within schedule, budget and scope.
- The requirement to develop a detailed TWDF management policy to ensure sustainable profitable operation and maintenance of the TWDF including setting and collection of fees, provision of consumables and a program of repairs and maintenance all with no ongoing cost to the WA State government.

An Expression of Interest does not guarantee funding will be awarded.

1.1 Opening and Closing Dates for Applications

Applications open on: 12:00pm (noon) on 16 December 2024

Applications close on: 12:00pm (noon) on 14 March 2025.

1.2 Who can apply for funding?

This scheme is open to existing eligible businesses who are able to demonstrate the ability to build, own and operate a TWDF. Businesses must be recognised by the Australian Tax Office, be registered for GST, have a current ABN and an account with an Australian financial institution.

1.3 Activities that can be funded

Under the scheme the successful applicant is required to build, own and operate a northern TWDF. Scheme funds available contribute to successful delivery of a TWDF including design phases, approvals, construction and commissioning of the facility.

1.4 Activities that CANNOT be funded

Grant funding cannot be used for:

- Operational and overhead costs
- Operational workforce labour costs (e.g salaries, training)
- Facilities maintenance costs
- Ongoing compliance/regulatory costs

- Expenses/costs for retrospective projects, activities, or events, including works, planning or training completed prior award of funding
- Purchase, lease, or acquisition of land

1.5 Funding limits and timeframes

In this scheme the maximum funding for the approved applicant is \$1.3 million.

Assessment criteria will be weighted to reward applicants that can demonstrate their ability to complete design and construction phases and commence TWDF operations to meet biosecurity objectives as soon as practical.

It is desirable that the northern TWDF is operational in time to support the 2026 dry season livestock movements.

2. Applicant Eligibility Requirements

2.1 Eligibility requirements

To be considered for funding through this scheme, applicants need to apply using the DPIRD SmartyGrants platform via <https://www.agric.wa.gov.au/r4r/northern-beef-development-project> Completed applications must be submitted before 12:00pm (noon) on 14 March 2025.

2.2 Eligibility criteria

To be eligible to apply for funding applicants must:

- be an existing business who can demonstrate the ability to build, own and operate a TWDF
- have a current Australian Business Number (ABN)
- be registered for GST
- have an account with an Australian financial institution.

2.3 Additional information required from Applicant

Applicants must supply the following information:

- evidence of meeting eligibility criteria
- if a trustee of a trust, a copy of the trust deed that outlines that the trustee has the authority to make application on behalf of the trust
- bank account details
- contact details.

2.4 Applicant funding contribution

Applicant should demonstrate the resources required (cash and in-kind funding) to complete the TWDF less the funding grant scheme of \$1.3 million.

Please provide full details in the Budget Table in the online application form.

3. How to apply for funding

Applicants must submit an online application in SmartyGrants addressing the assessment criteria and supplying all information requested by 12:00pm (noon) on 14 March 2025.

Applications received after this date will not be assessed.

4. Assessment – How will the applications be assessed

The assessment process aims to objectively identify one eligible applicant to whom funding could be awarded. Applications will be assessed by an assessment panel and the successful applicant duly notified according to DPIRD policy.

4.1 Assessment process

The assessment process will be carried out in the following manner:

4.1.1 Assessment criteria

Applicants must address the assessment criteria shown below, noting the weighting against criteria in the online application form.

1. Biosecurity Requirements – demonstrate that the TWDF will have a biosecurity benefit for current industry requirements and/or for preparedness and use during an Emergency Animal Disease (EAD) response. (40%)
 - The TWDF design is fit for purpose and accessible to the public to support current and projected industry use cases (livestock transport volumes).
 - The site meets requirements to support existing industry biosecurity requirements
 - reduced risk of introduction or spread of invasive plant species
 - meet current and future live export market protocols

and/or

 - The site is capable of meeting EAD response requirements
 - stand-off distances to other industry businesses/infrastructure.
 - understanding impact to existing business
 - The proponent is willing to execute a Deed assigning rights and obligations under the TWDF Grant agreement:
 - *That whenever, in the expressed opinion of the State, a disease outbreak or other emergency or good reason occurs, the TWDF owner will enable and permit the State and its employees, invitees and agents to enter and remain on the TWDF site, with all appropriate plant and equipment, and carry out the activities and purposes for which they enter and remain on the TWDF site.*
2. Capacity to deliver the TWDF Project within schedule, budget and scope. (20%)

You must demonstrate this through identifying:

- proven history of delivering similar projects using Project Management Principles and
- provision of a pre-feasibility design, build schedule and project plan
- adequate resources available to complete project requirements
- workforce availability – organisational and/or contracted
- delivery the TWDF in the shortest possible timeframes

Applicants are encouraged to consider novel and innovative solutions that provide additional benefits to the WA State Government investment, to regional growth and northern beef industry development.

3. TWDF site and design meets all Government compliance, regulatory and policy requirements and current industry best practice. (20%)

You must demonstrate this through identifying:

- How the TWDF proposal plans to meet all required Federal, State and Local Government planning, heritage and environmental regulations
- The site is of sufficient area and zoning to operate a TWDF
- Consideration of buy local
- Consideration of indigenous business procurement.

4. Capability and Capacity to operate and maintain a TWDF. (20%)

You must demonstrate this through identifying:

- How the TWDF business generates sufficient income to be sustainable, stable and committed to the long term, demonstrated by provision of the TWDF business model, prepared by an accountant which provides projections over the first five years of operation for income and expenditure, and profit and loss.
- A workforce development and employment program.
- Existing organisational governance functions – HR/admin/payroll/logistics etc.

5. Conflict of interest

Assessment team members will complete a conflict of interest (COI) declaration as part of the assessment process and any conflicts managed according to DPIRD policy.

6. Decision

The final recommendations will be made by the assessment panel with the final decision to award the funding grant residing with the Minister. All applicants will be duly notified of the Minister's decision.

6.1 Appeal process

There will not be an appeal process.

7. Notification of application outcomes

All applicants will be informed of the outcome of their application post Ministerial consideration.

8. Agreement Arrangements

DPIRD will discuss the development of an agreement with the successful applicant. The agreement will describe how and when payment of the grant is to be made, milestones and reporting requirements, as detailed below.

Full, or progress grant payments shall be described in the agreement, for example:

- Sufficient information supplied to DPIRD on the agreed works/project/activity to indicate that the activity has reached the progress milestone or is complete.
- Supporting evidence of installation or completion of the works/project/activity as detailed in the funding approval. This includes evidence of payment for the works in the recipient's name/business name and may include photos, reports, executive summary etc.
- A compliant tax invoice to DPIRD for the specified funding amount, either full or progress payment, as detailed in the agreement.
- This Scheme shall be delivered between June 2025 – December 2026.

9. Reporting and monitoring requirements

The reporting arrangements for this scheme include monthly milestone reports to be made on the scheme's reporting form.

Any project specific items to be reported on will be identified in the contract.

Reports are to be submitted online on or before due dates.

The following monitoring activities will be carried out:

- Monthly milestone meetings;
- Quarterly site visits;
- Operational launch site visit;
- Post operational launch site visits every 6 months for one year.

10. Tax information

Funding provided to recipients under the Grant is regarded as payment for a supply. GST-registered grant recipients will therefore be liable for GST in connection with the grant.

The grant will be increased by the amount of GST payable. Recipients must provide a tax invoice for the GST inclusive value of the grant.

Applicants are encouraged to seek tax advice on the potential implications of obtaining funding.

11. Personal Information and disclosure of information

Applicants are informed that DPIRD is subject to the *Freedom of Information Act 1992 (WA)*, which provides a general right of access to records held by the State Government agencies and local governments.

12. Intellectual Property

Any intellectual property rights that may exist in an application will remain the property of the applicant or the rightful owner of those intellectual property rights.

Any part of an application considered to contain any intellectual property rights should be clearly identified by the applicant. The applicant grants to the State (and will ensure that relevant third parties grant) a non-exclusive, irrevocable licence to use and reproduce the intellectual property for the purpose of administering the fund.

13. Payment arrangements

The payment policy for this scheme is as follows:

- Payments are made by the department;
- Payments are made on completion of agreed milestones within the agreement;
- Payments are made electronically to nominated accounts;

14. Contact Information

For further information on the scheme please contact Trevor Price, Program Manager, Northern Beef Development ph: 0437 826 003 or contact NTWDgrant@dpird.wa.gov.au

Glossary of Terms

Applicant - the entity/individual who makes the application for funding.

Application - an application (or relevant part of an application) made to the State of Western Australia for funding under the Fund

AWST - Australian Western Standard Time

DPIRD - Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development

Grant - Truck Wash Down Facility (TWDF)

Guidelines – are the guidelines for the scheme, this document

Key Contact – the applicant person to contact if there are any queries or information required in relation to the scheme.

SmartyGrants – is the online grant management software tool used by DPIRD.

Important Disclaimer

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