

# Australian Pork Limited

AUSTRALIAN  
Pork™

November 2023



# Request for proposals

## Review and update of ProHand Pigs Abattoir

APL is committed to good animal welfare throughout the pork supply chain. The production of high-quality Australian pork demands a safe and healthy product that has received a world-class level of animal care. APL prioritises animal welfare and continues to invest in research activities that lead to continuous improvement in how our pigs are cared for during all stages of their lives.

To date, APL research has driven continuous improvement and significant investment across the industry, with 80, soon to be 85, per cent of Australia's commercially produced pigs being processed at abattoirs that have adopted world leading infrastructure, enhanced by the application of scientifically backed animal handling techniques (ProHand Pigs and ProHand Pigs Abattoir). However, it has been several years since ProHand Pig Abattoir was developed and as the Australian Pork industry is committed to continuous improvement in pig welfare it is timely that ProHand Pig Abattoir be reviewed.

**Therefore, the objective of this review is to update the ProHand Pig Abattoir multimedia training programme utilising recent developments in designs of abattoir handling facilities and relevant research both nationally and internationally.**

### Specific Terms of Reference

Research providers who successfully tender for this Review will be responsible for:

- 1) Assembling expertise from within or between organisations to deliver one or more of the research outcomes identified earlier
- 2) Securing the necessary approvals for the conduct of the research
- 3) Developing a comprehensive project plan which includes detailed methodologies and budgets, stop/go milestones and describes the cash and in-kind contributions to the project from different parties, and subsequently delivering the research within budget
- 4) Analysing and reporting all data generated in formal reports to APL; and
- 5) Disseminating key findings from the research to the wider scientific community and commercial producers and commercial services to producers in a variety of formats subject to approval by APL.

### Specific Outputs Required

Specific outputs required by APL will include:

- 1) Progress reports against milestones/decision points agreed with APL that detail project findings from individual experiments.
- 2) A comprehensive final report (following approval of a draft by APL) detailing all aspects of the research conducted (methodology, data, analysis and conclusions), submitted on the APL Final Report template; and
- 3) Scientific papers, conference presentations, producer talks and trade articles as appropriate and approved by APL.

## **Timetable**

Date	Action
6 November 2023	Application submission opens
20 November 2023	Deadline for research proposals to be received by APL
1 <sup>st</sup> January 2024	Project commencement

## **General Conditions of Contracts**

Research contracts entered into with APL will require:

- 1) Confidentiality to be maintained with disclosure only with approval of APL
- 2) Copyright of all documentation and intellectual property to be vested pro-rata to the agreement parties on the basis of cash contributed, or as agreed by the parties
- 3) The project to be undertaken in an impartial, objective and professional manner consistent with good scientific principles and practice, including approval from the institutions Animal Ethics Committee
- 4) Applicants to provide their own insurance cover for the risks pertaining to the project, including activities provided by base funding
- 5) Applicants to identify any areas of potential conflict of interest during the application process, or during the course of any supported project
- 6) Opportunities for variation to the project objectives and work schedules subject to mutual agreement; and
- 7) Any material provided by APL to be used only for work specific to the project, unless expressly approved by APL.

## **Lodgement of Response**

- 1) All submissions are to be lodged as full proposals using the Research & Development Application in PigConnect (<https://pigconnect.australianpork.com.au/>).
- 2) Please make sure you read the '[Guidelines for preparing Research Proposals](#)' document before preparing your proposal.
- 3) Finalised proposals for research will be developed and assessed using APL's research & development assessment processes.
- 4) For proposals that require the use of base funded facilities, applicants must ensure that this detail is included in their PigConnect lodged proposal.

## **Contact**

If you are interested in submitting an application, please contact:

Dr Rebecca Athorn

Manager, Production Innovation

0436655015

[rebecca.athorn@australianpork.com.au](mailto:rebecca.athorn@australianpork.com.au)