

LIVESTOCK PROCESSING FACILITIES

ASSESSMENTS BY PRODUCT INTEGRITY BRANCH

BIOSECURITY TASMANIA

PREMISES ASSESSMENT

1. Referral from licensed building surveyor to Product Integrity Branch

The building surveyor assessing the building application will refer the application to Product Integrity Branch using *Form 10: Referral to Function Control Authority*

Note: mobile facilities may not be required to seek building approval, in which case, the applicant must provide the building plans for the proposed mobile livestock processing facility directly to Product Integrity Branch.

2. Assessment by Product Integrity Branch

Product Integrity Branch will assess the suitability of the layout of the applicant's proposed premises against:

- a) The National Construction Code Volume One TAS Part 14 Food Premises ([TAS Part 14 Food premises | NCC](#))
- b) Australian Standard 4696:2023 – Hygienic Production and Transportation of Meat and Meat Products for Human Consumption (available for purchase online from sites such as [Standards Australia](#)).

Key considerations under the National Construction Code and Australian Standard 4696:2023 include whether:

- the dimensions of the facility are fit for purpose for the proposed business and large enough for the proposed capacity
- the traffic flow/layout is suitable for the proposed activities
- hygienic design allows for cleanability and hygienic operations to not pose a food safety risk to final product.

3. Product Integrity Branch responds to licensed building surveyor

Product Integrity Branch will advise the building surveyor if it has any concerns about compliance with the National Construction Code or the Australian Standard 4696:2023. The building surveyor will communicate with the applicant if amendments to the building plans are required. If the amendments are substantial, the plans may be brought back to Product Integrity Branch for further consideration after they have been amended. If there are no, or only minor, amendments required to the building plans, it may not be necessary for the building surveyor to refer to the Product Integrity Branch.

PROCESS ASSESSMENT

1. Apply for food safety accreditation

Your application for food safety accreditation must contain:

- a) Food Safety Program for the business with all sections completed/drafted (a template is available from Product Integrity Branch upon request), including the floor plan with equipment layout.

****This document is critical to demonstrate that compliance with Australian Standard 4696:2023 will be achieved when the facility commences operations.****

- b) Signed and fully completed [Application for Accreditation](#) (this form includes accreditation for livestock processing).
- c) Evidence of the requirement for statutory approvals from Local Council (i.e. land use planning, building and plumbing).

Note: a mobile livestock processing facility may not require statutory approvals from Local Council; however, Product Integrity Branch will need to see evidence that Local Council has been consulted and has determined that approval is not required.

Application fee will be invoiced and payment required for the application package to be formally assessed. For details regarding fees, visit Biosecurity Tasmania's [Accreditation Fees and Charges page](#).

2. Assessment by Product Integrity

Product Integrity Branch will assess the suitability of your proposed food safety plan against Australian Standard 4696:2023 (adopted under the [Primary Produce Safety \(Meat and Poultry\) Regulations 2024](#)).

A site visit may be conducted to verify the content of the food safety program is reflected in the proposed layout and equipment used within the facility.

3. Accreditation issued by Product Integrity Branch

If accreditation is granted by the Chief Inspector, a Certificate of Accreditation is issued with conditions.

Regulatory food safety audits commence 3 months after accreditation and audit frequency assigned.

In the event that accreditation is denied, the applicant may apply to the Tasmanian Civil and Administrative Tribunal for review of the decision within 28 days of written notice of the decision (section 22 of the [Primary Produce Safety Act 2011](#)).