

31 May 2007

To Whom It May Concern

I write to confirm that New Zealand law does not permit the slaughter of dogs for human consumption.

Such a practice would not be legal in New Zealand.

Primary processing (ie. slaughter and dressing) of animals for human consumption or animal consumption needs to be covered by a Risk Management Programme which must be registered with the New Zealand Food Safety Authority prior to commencement of operations.

The New Zealand Food Safety Authority has not granted any such approval.

In addition, were the New Zealand Food Safety Authority to receive such an application for registration, the Authority would be required to consult with Biosecurity New Zealand and this would involve public consultation, the outcome of which is unlikely to receive favourable support given the very high rate of ownership of dogs as family pets in New Zealand.

I trust this is of interest.

Rt Honourable Winston Peters MP

Minister of Foreign Affairs

Minister for Racing

Associate Minister for Senior Citizens

Leader New Zealand First

