



## Frequently Asked Questions

### **Q1. Who is eligible?**

Primary producers who have livestock on properties within Disaster Declared areas.

### **Q2. What is the rebate for?**

To assist with the cost of transport of fodder and/or water to a property, stock to/from agistment and stock to sale or slaughter following a declared Natural Disaster event.

### **Q3. What costs are covered?**

The transport of:

- Fodder for stock (including bees).
- Domestic water
- Stock drinking water
- Stock to agistment.
- Stock from agistment
- Stock to sale or slaughter

### **Q4. What is NOT covered?**

The transport of:

- Stock away from a property for agistment that is NOT within a Natural Disaster Declared area.
- Fodder to a property that is NOT within a Natural Disaster Declared area.
- Fencing and other materials to assist with the containment of stock after a declared Natural Disaster event.

### **Q5. Why is Drought not a declared Natural Disaster?**

The Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA) enable the Commonwealth and NSW Governments to provide assistance in the event of declared Natural Disasters.

The NDRRA defines a natural disaster as one or a combination of the following rapid onset events:

- bushfire
- earthquake
- flood
- storm
- cyclone
- storm surge
- landslide
- tsunami
- meteorite strike, or
- tornado.

This means that Drought is not included in the NDRRA however there are some other options for transport assistance available from the RAA including a transport loan through the Drought Assistance Fund and a transport subsidy for Animal Welfare.

## **Q6. What information do I need to provide when claiming for the subsidy?**

You need to provide the following:

- Copy of your latest Local Land Services (LLS) rates notice
- Copy of your latest Local Government Area (LGA) (Shire) rates notice
- Certified copy of proof of purchase (for fodder and water)
- Certified copy of agistment agreement or invoice
- Evidence of sale or slaughter
- Certified copy of invoices for transport costs

## **Q7. How far am I able to move my stock or obtain fodder?**

A maximum distance of 1,500 km applies.

## **Q8 What is the minimum load?**

The minimum load for stock is equivalent to 70 dry sheep equivalents (DSE). Loads of less than 70 DSE will be assessed on a case by case basis (e.g. transporting bulls).

Minimum load for water is 1000 litres.

## **Q9. How far am I able to obtain water?**

Subsidy on the transport of water is only available if the water is carted from the nearest practicable source. A maximum distance of 500 km applies.

## **Q10. Am I able to move fodder and or water within my property?**

Genuine smaller vehicle movements within a property are allowed, where the initial vehicle transporting the fodder to the property is too large to transport the fodder to the appropriate storage location on the property.

Transport of water within a holding is eligible as long as the roundtrip distance is 15km or greater to a suitable storage facility that minimises evaporation.

## **Q11. Can a company or incorporated body apply?**

Yes. But as with individuals, the company must have a right or interest in the land used for the purpose of a farm enterprise.

## **Q12. How do I know if my farm is covered?**

Your farm must be located within a disaster declared area.

Visit the NSW Rural Assistance Authority (RAA) website at: [www.raa.nsw.gov.au/assistance/natural-disaster-relief/declarations](http://www.raa.nsw.gov.au/assistance/natural-disaster-relief/declarations) for a list of current natural disaster event or call 1800 678 593.

## **Q13. Is GST included in any payment received?**

No – the GST component of any invoices received is able to be claimed on completion of your Business Activity Statement (BAS). The RAA will NOT issue a Recipient Created Tax Invoice (RCTI) on payment of the rebate and you should retain the 'Payment Advice' that is forwarded as a record for taxation purposes.

## **Q14. Should the subsidy be treated as Taxable Income when my Income Tax Return is completed?**

Please seek advice from your accountant when applying for this type of assistance.

**Q15. How quickly will claims be progressed?**

The aim is for a two-week turnaround including the receipt of payments.

**Q16. Can I get approval before transporting my stock or the fodder?**

No. Claims must be lodged with invoices following the transport of the stock/fodder.

**Q17. When is the cut-off date for lodging claims and how do I apply?**

The subsidy is available during the six month period of a Natural Disaster declaration.

Claims for the rebate must be submitted no later than six months after the first movement of the stock/fodder with the first movement of the stock/fodder to take place during the first 3 months of the Natural Disaster declaration period.

**Q18. How do we apply?**

The claim form is available on the RAA website [www.raa.nsw.gov.au](http://www.raa.nsw.gov.au) or by contacting RAA directly on 1800 678 593.

Applicants can lodge completed forms including required documentation to the NSW Rural Assistance Authority by post, email, facsimile or personal delivery at:

Post: Locked Bag 23  
Orange NSW 2800

Email: [rural.assist@raa.nsw.gov.au](mailto:rural.assist@raa.nsw.gov.au)

Fax: (02) 6391 3098

In person: 161 Kite Street  
Orange NSW 2800

Applications must be received by the NSW Rural Assistance Authority no later than the closing date.

Applications received after the advertised application period closing date, in any other circumstances will not be accepted.

