

**Chicken Farmers of Ontario**  
**Infectious Poultry Disease**  
**Isolation Policy**  
**No. 233-2017**

Made under: The *Farm Products Marketing Act*  
Effective: November 1, 2017

### **Section 1 – Interpretation**

1.01 In this policy,

- i. “*Alert Zone*” means a geographic area as identified by Chicken Farmers of Ontario (CFO) where a heightened biosecurity alert has been issued in relation to a farm due to a suspected or confirmed presence of an infectious poultry disease (IPD) in which case Chicken Farmers of Ontario may exercise its authority under this policy and take such further action to attempt to prevent the further transmission or spread of the infectious poultry disease;
- ii. “*Infectious poultry disease*” means an immediately notifiable hazard, as defined in Appendix A of Regulation 277/12 of the Ontario *Animal Health Act*, which is a risk to chicken.

Other words and phrases used in this policy shall have the same meaning as found in the Words & Meanings Regulation made by the Board.

### **Section 2 – Application and Implementation**

- 2.01 The requirements of the policy should be read in conjunction with all applicable Federal and Provincial requirements and regulations relating to infectious poultry disease, and should not be considered or construed as replacing or being an alternative for such requirements and regulations.
- 2.02 This policy is made by the Board under the *Farm Products Marketing Act* and recognizes the serious threat posed by infectious poultry diseases to the Ontario chicken industry. It contemplates various actions that the Board may take, using its authority to control the producing and marketing of chicken, to respond to such threats in the best interests of the Ontario chicken industry. The policy describes the requirements that farmer-members must meet with regards to the detection of an infectious poultry disease on a registered premises and the isolation of such registered premises. The policy also contemplates the establishment of a heightened bio-security alert zone by the Board and describes the requirements of farmer-members with registered premises in that heightened bio-security alert zone.

- 2.03 In continuing to allot crop quotas to farmer-members, the Board requires that farmer-members comply with the provisions of this policy.
- 2.04 The Board may, on occasion, deem it appropriate to make certain specific orders and directions related to this policy for the purpose of furthering the intended effect of its application.
- 2.05 The Board generally does not provide compensation for losses or reimbursement for expenses or costs incurred by reason of the application of this policy. Where the application of this policy has a significant outcome in relation to either the contracting or supply utilization rules for processors, or under marketing or over marketing rules for farmer-members, then the Board may specifically relieve from the application of such rules, if the circumstances warrant.

### **Section 3 – Detection of Infectious Poultry Disease and Isolation and Management of Registered Premises**

- 3.01 Any farmer-member who is aware of or suspects the presence of an infectious poultry disease on the registered premises, shall:
- (a) consult immediately with a licensed veterinarian;
  - (b) immediately notify the Board and provide all requested information in relation to the suspected or confirmed infectious poultry disease;
  - (c) keep a written record of all communications with a licensed veterinarian and the Board and maintain such record in the same manner as if it was a record kept pursuant to the On Farm Food Safety Assurance and Animal Care Policy;
  - (d) use the visitor's log book to record all movement on and off the registered premises, including residence, barns, restricted areas and other buildings;
  - (e) control movement of personnel, equipment and vehicles to and from the registered premises and whenever feasible conduct activities through non-contact methods;
  - (f) establish a physical barrier at all access points to the farm and erect signage indicating that the registered premises is under heightened biosecurity and setting out a telephone number that visitors are required to use prior to entering the registered premises;
  - (g) contact all service providers and other potential visitors to the registered premises and specify heightened biosecurity protocols to be adhered to;
  - (h) request that any person attending the registered premises, in order to provide essential services, make the registered premises their final destination of the day.
  - (i) secure a supply of disposable personal protective equipment including boots,

gloves and coveralls, disinfectants and other related supplies that may be required to properly manage the isolation;

- j) all essential personnel that must enter the Controlled Access Zone (“CAZ”) must:
  - i. dress in disposable boots prior to leaving vehicles
  - ii. wear disposable personal protective equipment (PPE) including coveralls, boot covers, masks, head covering and gloves
- k) wash their hands with warm water and soap prior to leaving the registered premises;
- l) vehicle wheels must be cleaned and disinfected prior to leaving the registered premises;
- m) ensure that family members attending activities off the registered premises avoid entering the barn(s);
- n) ensure that all individuals residing at the registered premises shower and dress in clean laundered clothing prior to leaving the registered premises and avoid contact with other bird species, including pets, while away from the registered premises;
- o) limit the number of persons engaged in barn and flock management to those necessary to complete the required tasks;
- p) ensure that other animals on the registered premises, including pets such as cats or dogs, are confined and are not permitted to enter the CAZ;
- q) retain dead birds in the barn in a sealed container until disposed of in accordance with the direction of a veterinarian or government authority;
- r) manage garbage disposal so that garbage is kept on the registered premises until isolation terminates;
- s) retain manure in the barn until disposed of in accordance with the direction of a veterinarian or government authority;
- t) take such further actions as may be ordered and directed by the Board to prevent the further transmission or spread of the infectious poultry disease.

3.02 If there are reasonable grounds to believe that an infectious poultry disease is present at registered premises, the Board may order and direct a farmer-member to isolate the registered premises by implementing any or all of the requirements of Section 3.01 of this Policy. In furtherance of an order and direction it has issued, the Board may deploy Board employees and an emergency response vehicle and related equipment to a registered premises under isolation to monitor and oversee biosecurity measures described in Section 3.01 and to restrict traffic to and from the registered premises.

- 3.03 Every farmer-member whose registered premises has been isolated in accordance with an order and direction of the Board shall refrain from removing both live or dead birds from the registered premises, until such removal has been approved by the Board.
- 3.04 A registered premise that has been isolated shall be released from isolation upon confirmation of laboratory results indicating no infectious poultry disease is present at the registered premises.
- 3.05 Every farmer-member whose registered premises has been isolated shall ensure proper cleaning and disinfection is completed in accordance with the direction of a veterinarian or government authority;
- 3.06 Every farmer-member whose registered premise has been isolated may proceed with the placement of any subsequent crop quota at the registered premises only under specific authorization of the Board and notwithstanding whether the farmer-member has been issued a crop quota for the registered premises prior to the date of isolation.

#### **Section 4 – Heightened Bio-Security Alert Zone**

- 4.01 In the event a registered premise has been isolated pursuant to section 3 of this policy, the Board may rely upon such isolation as the basis for deciding, in the best interests of the Ontario chicken industry, to declare the establishment of a heightened bio-security alert zone (“Alert Zone”).
- 4.02 The Board will provide written notification of the establishment of an Alert Zone to all affected farmer-members having registered premises within the Alert Zone as soon as reasonably possible.
- 4.03 When declaring an Alert Zone, the Board will document the details of the Alert Zone, including:
  - (a) The precise physical location and parameters of the Alert Zone;
  - (b) The number of and the specific global positioning system locations of all registered premises located within the Alert Zone;
  - (c) Marketing particulars with respect to all such registered premises, including the size and days to market status of flocks of chicken in current production, any pending chick placements and the identity of all hatching companies, catching services, transportation and processors impacted by the creation of the Alert Zone; and
  - (d) Such other conditions that producers in the Alert Zone must satisfy.
- 4.04 When the Board establishes an Alert Zone, it may prohibit any chick placements in the Alert Zone and any or all marketing of chicken from the Alert Zone as it deems appropriate and the Board may suspend or relocate the crop quota of a farmer-member with registered premises in the Alert Zone on such terms as it deems appropriate.

- 4.05 The Board will declare the dissolution of an Alert Zone as soon as it determines that the risk posed by the detection of an infectious poultry disease and isolation of a registered premises pursuant to section 3 of this policy has been resolved to such an extent that any attendant or related risk posed to registered premises within the Alert Zone has been reduced, managed or eliminated to the satisfaction of the Board.
- 4.06 The establishment of an Alert Zone by the Board does not preclude the Board from subsequently isolating a registered premise that is located within the Alert Zone pursuant to section 3 of this policy.
- 4.07 To the extent that circumstances dictate, the Board intends to manage the Alert Zone in a manner similar to the management approach that it has contemplated in relation to a registered premise that it has isolated pursuant to section 3 of this Policy.

### **Section 5 – Failure to Comply**

- 5.01 The Board may refuse to allot a quota or may reduce, refuse to increase or cancel a quota allotted to a farmer-member who failed to comply with or has contravened any provision of this policy or an order or direction of the Board made under it.

### **Section 6 – Revocation**

- 6.01 CFO Policy No. 205-2014 made by the Board on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of April 2014, is hereby revoked as of the effective date and this policy is substituted therefor, provided that such revocation shall not affect the previous effect of said policy or anything duly done or suffered thereunder, or any right, privilege, obligation or liability acquired, accrued, accruing or incurred under said policy; or any contravention committed against said policy or any penalty or forfeiture or punishment incurred in respect thereof or any such right, investigation, legal proceeding or remedy in respect of any such right, privilege, obligation, liability, penalty, forfeiture or punishment as aforesaid.

**BY ORDER OF** Chicken Farmers of Ontario

**DATED AT** Burlington, Ontario this 1<sup>ST</sup> day of November, 2017.



Chair



Secretary