

FLYING MINUTE: Proposal to Declare Second Generation Anticoagulant Rodenticides as Restricted Chemical Products

By Melanie Davies, Senior Policy Advisory, Environment

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

That State Council endorse the submission on the Discussion Paper on Proposed Restrictions for Second Generation Anticoagulant Rodenticides.

RESOLUTION 270.FM/2026

CARRIED

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) is proposing to declare certain second generation anticoagulant rodenticides (SGARs) as restricted chemical products (RCPs).
- WALGA provided comments to the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) in March 2026 that noted the proposed regulatory changes to SGARs to protect the safety of non-target animals aligned with the practices of 32 Local Governments in Western Australia.
- WALGA's submission provides the following key points:
 - Review the effectiveness of the emergency use permit pathway at facilitating permits for emergency rodent control.
 - Clarify whether farmers and other professional users would be eligible to be qualified as an 'authorised user'.
 - Subject to these provisions, support the declaration of all SGARs as RCPs, with use limited to authorised persons.
 - The Australian and State Governments should undertake a public education program to provide landholders with best practice approaches to pest control.
- The submission is due on Thursday, 11 June, and no extension is available.
- The Environment Policy Team met on 25 May and recommended that State Council endorse the submission.

STRATEGIC PLAN IMPLICATIONS

This item aligns with WALGA's Strategic Pillars:

- **Influence:** Lead advocacy on issues important to Local Government and lead policy development for the Local Government sector.
- **Support:** Anticipate, understand and respond to Member needs.

ATTACHMENT

- [WALGA Submission – Discussion Paper on Proposed Restrictions for SGARs.](#)

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

This submission aligns with WALGA's Advocacy Position [4.2 Natural Resource Management.](#)

BACKGROUND

At the Environment Policy Team meeting on 19 March, an item was provided regarding the APVMA's review of the risks of second generation anticoagulant rodenticide products.

WALGA promoted the opportunity to comment to Local Government and provided a short response in support of the proposed regulatory changes. In providing feedback to the APVMA, WALGA noted that the outcomes of the Anticoagulant Rodenticides Review Technical Report, which found that SGARs pose an unacceptable risk of having unintended effects on non-target animals, aligned with the feedback WALGA had received from Local Governments.

The next stage in the consultation process is the release of a [Discussion Paper](#) by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) on the proposed restrictions. The Discussion Paper outlines that the APVMA has recommended restricting the use of SGARs to authorised users to mitigate the risks to non-target species. This approach can be implemented by States and Territories declaring SGARs as RCPs, defining who authorised persons are and what conditions they need to meet to use SGARs. The APVMA will still be able to issue emergency permits to deal with situations like mouse plagues.

WALGA has developed a short submission to DAFF on the Discussion Paper. Feedback is due by 11 June, and no extensions will be granted.

The Environment Policy Team met on 25 May and recommended that State Council endorse the submission.

COMMENT

Local Government has been vocal on this issue and supportive of bans/restrictions to use of SGARs. Following a motion to the 2022 National General Assembly of Local Government, the ALGA board supported a call on the Australian Government to recognise the harmful impact of second-generation rodenticides and promote alternative methods of rodent management. WALGA Zones have also identified concerns with these impacts and through the Owl Friendly Council Program, which includes 32 Local Governments that have declared Owl Friendly status or promote use of alternatives to SGARs.

The recent mouse plague, highlighted by the Shire of Morawa in [media reports](#), has identified deficiencies in the current emergency provision and WALGA has taken the consultation as an opportunity to raise this issue in the submission.

WALGA's submission provides the following key points:

- Review the effectiveness of the emergency use permit pathway at facilitating permits for emergency rodent control.
- Clarify whether farmers and other professional users would be eligible to be qualified as an 'authorised user'.
- Subject to these provisions, support the declaration of all SGARs as RCPs, with use limited to authorised persons.
- The Australian and State Governments should undertake a public education program to provide landholders with best practice approaches to pest control.

FLYING MINUTE OUTCOME

Poll created: 28/05/2026 at 16:00

Poll closed: 09/06/2026 at 17:00

Total invited to survey: 24

Total finished survey: 18

Name	Completed Date
Chris Antonio	6/06/2026 12:17
Phillip Blight	2/06/2026 12:39
Laurene Bonza	9/06/2026 10:58
Donelle Buegge	29/05/2026 7:09
Scott Crosby	3/06/2026 5:57
Patrick Hall	5/06/2026 11:25
Cate McCullough	No response
Lewis Hutton	No response
Suzanne Migdale	No response
Paul Kelly	9/06/2026 16:03
Terresa Lynes	8/06/2026 11:07
Paige McNeil	31/05/2026 11:15
Chris Mitchell	9/06/2026 16:47
Matthew Niikkula	No response
Les Price	31/05/2026 6:42
Helen Sadler	1/06/2026 20:35
Robert Schmidt	9/06/2026 21:22
Eman Seif	7/06/2026 12:23
Audra Smith	8/06/2026 16:10
Stephen Strange	No response
Liz Sudlow	2/06/2026 13:48
Mike Walmsley	3/06/2026 12:10
Karen Wheatland	No response
Barry Winmar	8/06/2026 16:08

The submission was endorsed.

Following State Council feedback, the following amendments were made to the submission:

- *Strengthening the focus on a streamlined and effective emergency permit pathway to ensure effective rodent control during plague situations.*
- *Recommending the APVMA consider reviewing new, more effective rodenticide products for use in emergency contexts.*
- *Identifying the negative impact of slow approval processes.*
- *Identifying the need for additional training, education and funding.*