

Marcus Corban Bloodstock Ltd

I, Marcus Corban, bloodstock consultant from Cambridge, am a director of Marcus Corban Bloodstock Limited. I have been engaged and instructed by White Robe Lodge, to provide an expert opinion on the impact of an inland port will have on the foaling unit and its ability to continue operating its current form and function.

Background History for Marcus Corban

I have been involved in the Thoroughbred Horse Industry for over 45 years and have a very good understanding of developing and running stud farms in New Zealand and Australia.

I worked at the famous Cambridge Stud for Sir Patrick Hogan for over 35 years, including 20 years as General Manager. During this time, we undertook continuous developments which made us into one of the most renowned stud farms in the world, with the famous stallions' Zabeel, Sir Tristram, Tavistock, Cape Cross, and many more.

When Brendan and Jo Lindsay purchased Cambridge Stud, I stayed on for two years and helped develop the "new" Cambridge Stud with Brendan, including new stables for yearlings, Stallion barns, Veterinary bays, and a new foaling unit. We also purchased two adjacent farms, which required total re-fencing and new infrastructure to amalgamate into the existing Cambridge Stud farm.

I also have experience in Australia, where I worked for Yulong Investments as a Project Manager developing their newly acquired equine farms. I have also helped build and design Brooklyn Lodge in the Hunter Valley from scratch, which is now known as Newgate Farm in Aberdeen.

Background Assessment of White Robe Lodge

White Robe Lodge has operated for over 70 years and is a famous Thoroughbred Stud in Australasia. The Stud is a specialised breeding operation with purpose built foaling unit which caters for the birth of the foals and the aftercare once they have been born.

Foaling Unit on White Robe Lodge

The White Robe foaling unit is a very important part of their business and also contributes significantly to the industry as a whole. The foaling unit at White Robe Lodge is like a new birthing unit at a maternity hospital. Firstly, it is staffed 24 hours a day, with broodmares health and safety being a priority. There are foaling teams to foal the broodmares 24 hours a day, but after foaling a broodmare, all subsequent care can be undertaken there. Young foals need extra attention to ensure they are born without any problems, some foals need extra care with oxygen or to deal with any placenta issues. Foals can also require plasma and blood transfusions, it is all a very important part of the process in producing healthy horses.

The stable boxes around the paddock are very important to maintain and help the foals that have ongoing problems, such as leg issues. For all major problems, veterinarians are on call and a loading bank facility provides support to move a foal to the hospital. You have very limited time to react in such scenarios. That is why having a house with

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The Stud Manager next to the foaling paddock is so important, as it allows swift decisions to be made which can be the difference between a foal surviving, or perishing.

In the mornings, the foals are checked and inspected, a lot of which are subject to insurance policies. The high standard of care and attention provided to birthed foals and recovering Broodmares is a massive part of White Robes' business and contributes to them being an industry leader in this specific field.

I have read White Robe's submission and fully support its contents.

Conclusion

This is a farm with a lot of history and is very important for the Bloodstock industry in the South Island and the foaling unit is a very important part of the business and the safety of the bloodstock is very important as they are worth millions of dollars.

My main concern is the building of the inland port opposite the foaling unit with disruptions, i.e. constant noise, lights and trucks which puts the pregnant mares under a lot of stress and they are in a very delicate stage of their pregnancies. The foals they are carrying are worth a lot of money.

Feel free to contact me with any questions.



Yours sincerely

Marcus Corban

