

Viterra Select Committee  
Submission

14/4/11

Dear Sir, I am an active member of the Cowell Silo committee. A large percentage of Cowells harvest was classified as Feed. This was proven at the early stages of harvest, to be a very inaccurate way of assessment, as there was no falling number on wheat in the feed segregation. I asked Viterra for this information. Viterra tells nobody anything that they considered detrimental to the visual classification.

If a G.P. cells 1000 tonne ave is 280 seconds, the APW 305 seconds it would make sense to test the F1 grade. If Viterra had a 1000 Tonne running fall no. on F1 at Cowell it is probable it would have averaged 260 seconds. We have many samples to prove this.

Viterra in outloading to Port are reclassifying each load. The majority are being upgraded.

Viterra had the highest bids for F1 wheat during harvest (up to \$250 Tonne port).

Viterra had the lowest bids for milling grades.

Viterra intended to profit from visual classification by giving the grower the lowest grade possible and gaining in upgrading at Port.

(2)

Viterra will say blending of grain has always been normal practice for the handling of grain. When a company has a monopoly on any product in Australia it must be accountable for its actions.

Viterra abused its monopoly by way of controlling the flow of grain to try and blend cells in 1000 T tests for cell averages. It had no consideration for growers who had to cart grain vast distances to try and get a correct classification.

Viterra had no consideration for fatigue of drivers travelling huge extra kilometers.

I wish for your Select Committee to demand the tonnage of wheat classified F1 and compare this tonnage to the amount available for export as F1.

I personally had over 2000 Tonnes of F1 that had a fall no. average suitable for milling.

Viterra must be made to pay growers for these losses.

yours faithfully

Robert Walsh.