

# **BONALBO CATTLE COMPANY PTY LTD**

**ABN 55 009 616 700**

Committee Secretary  
Senate Standing Committees on Rural Affairs and Transport  
P O Box 6100  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Sir

Reference is made to clause 2a of your inquiry regarding the implications of the live export trade on regional Australia and those of us who rely on this trade for our livelihood.

I have been in the Northern Territory since 1953 and have been involved with the cattle industry since then. Firstly as a stockman, then I had my own droving plant for ten years walking cattle from the Western Australia border into Queensland. I moved onto my first cattle station in 1964 and have owned a number of stations since.

This banning of the live export trade is the greatest crisis that I have experienced in the industry in my life time.

I have 4 children and 2 grandchildren, all grown adults with their own families, a total of 25 people, all completely reliant on the live export trade for their livelihood.

Between us we turn off 6000 cattle annually to Indonesia, make about 4000 tons of hay, have a helicopter mustering business, a yard building business and a contract mustering plant.

All these operations have been severely curtailed at present and we are unsure if and when they will become viable again.

Also, it is extremely important that any inquiry regarding live export, take into account the massive devaluation of land and infrastructure that has taken place. This affects the equity and borrowing capacity of all businesses and service industries to the live export trade and ultimately affects the economy of North Australia and especially the Northern Territory.

Ian R McBean  
Owner/ Manager  
14th July 2011