

From: Gerald & Sharlene Schaper
Sent: Monday, 21 October 2019 5:59 PM
To: RRAT, Committee (SEN)
Subject: Submission on the Dairy Industry Australia

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

I believe that to be true the attached news clippings.
That Dairy Australia lacks independence from processors influence.
Having spoken to DA about the future of dairy and to be told the same as stated by ADF that, there are fewer dairies but there are bigger ones so this is acceptable.

That ADF lack independence from processors influence based on that they were funded by those. Although I have seen the ADF lips moving I am hearing someone else talking or dictating.

I further more put to you based on my actual discussions with Mr Saputo Jr and his representatives that there is influence on Australian dairy production to the negative towards Australians.
I also put to you that import of milk and milk related products from the same country represented by those processors and supplied through our large supermarkets are manipulation of our economy.

This is the result of my response to Mr Saputo.

An open letter sent to Mr Saputo.

My Saputo Jr

Today our hearts are broken.

We were for the sale of our cooperative to you.

Having questions in my mind recently about your feelings regarding you losing suppliers of milk and the crisis within the dairy industry.
And the fact that we received threats of stopping collection because our minimum quantity was below your requirements.

Your lack of concern whilst various charities, Rural aid, Lions club and Government departments, Farm Household Allowance, along with Coles and Woolworths, all trying to help.

I asked the question of one of your representatives as to your feelings?

To be told the game you are playing is you will buy milk from wherever you can get the cheapest price to make your cheese.

You yourself told us that you welcomed a milk shortage by reason of economics as this would dictate a better price.

You yourself told us we would be penalised for increasing production.

So I put it to you that, people charities organisations and government are helping you and your business whilst you sit back and enjoy the show.

So, our life in dairy is ruined and that of our cows, yes by the drought but more so by your game.
As the processor, the middle man, the negotiator, you are responsible.

At your meet the suppliers meeting you mentioned the need for a dairy code of conduct.
What is your code of conduct, Mr Saputo if you even have one.

It seems to me this is just another case of some self serving interesting individual trying to influence the government for selfish gain.

It seems to me that you have no place for small dairy but I remind you that your “family business” started small. Perhaps you didn’t have a Mr Saputo like individual trying to destroy your family enterprise.

With no Regards

Gerald Schaper

The solutions for dairy in Australia is to remove the power of influence over the domestic market by processors and supermarkets by making it easier for farmers to “on farm process of food standards approved pasteurised milk”. It’s not as an expensive exercise as one would be led to believe.
Another solution is to put import tariffs on imported produce to protect our industry.



“By reason of economics “. Sounds familiar.

I thank the senate for taking the time to call for these submissions.