



14 June 2017

Red Tape Committee  
Department of the Senate  
PO Box 6100  
Canberra ACT 2600

redtape.sen@aph.gov.au

Dear Committee Secretary,

**Re: Inquiry into Environmental assessment and approvals**

The National Farmers' Federation (NFF) welcomes the opportunity to provide a submission to the Red Tape Committee's Inquiry into Environmental Assessments and Approvals.

NFF has provided numerous submissions on the issues being explored by the Committee in recent years. This has included:

- ) House of Representatives Environment Committee inquiry into Green Tape
- ) Productivity Commission's Inquiry into the Regulation of Agriculture.

The red tape associated with environmental regulations was extensively explored by both these committees, and I recommend that the Committee Review the reports of these two previous inquiries.

I have attached for your information NFF's submissions to these previous inquiries.

Despite the Commonwealth and States making progress towards a "one-stop shop" model, in its current form, this approach applies only to major, state significant projects where a common assessment process is adopted. This model is supported by assessment bilateral agreements between the Commonwealth and the States. In their current form, these bilateral agreements are largely not applicable to agriculture developments.

If you have any questions in relation to our feedback, please do not hesitate to contact Jack Knowles, Manager of Natural Resources Policy,

Yours sincerely,

**Tony Mahar**  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE**  
National Farmers' Federation