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

As a Grazier and Farmer in the Great Barrier Reef catchment area proposed regulations to be implemented will affect our Fourth-Generation business greatly.

1. Firstly, the existing evidence put forward on water quality from all Agricultural practices needs to be examined by a reputable organisation that is agreed to by existing agriculture bodies and the connectivity to agriculture. In the past evidence released show that poor water quality effecting the reef was in the Cape York region where no farming takes place and very little grazing takes place.

2. How do you prepare for a drought if you do not know one is coming? The Bureau of Meteorology and mainstream weather forecasts is only short-term predictions – (about 3 days).

The methodology for weather predictions used by Indigo Jones, David Burton and Ken Ring (Predict Weather) need to be used instead of blaming carbon emissions for climate change.

Our Family business started preparing for this drought 4 years ago and this drought is going to continue for another 2 years minimum.

3. I would suggest that the proposed regulations to be implemented will have no change to water quality as a producer we are already doing soil and leaf tests to put on the recommended rate of Nitrogen, Phosphorus and do not put on more that recommended as we are the ones that have to pay for it. Time would be better spent on research into Phosphorus reserves and how Agriculture will adapt when this Non-renewable reserve diminishes.

Regards

Warren Jones

4th Generation Farmer & Grazier.