



17 April 2014

Committee Secretary
Senate Standing Committees on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport
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Dear Committee Secretary,

RE: Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Legislation Amendment Bill 2014

I am writing in regard to the recent invitation for submissions to the inquiry into the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Legislation (Removing Re-approval and Re-registration) Bill 2014. I would like to draw your attention to the submission on the proposed legislation that Australian Dairy Farmers and Dairy Australia made on 7 March 2014, which is attached with this letter. We request that our comments on the Bill be considered in the inquiry.

Yours sincerely,

David Losberg
ADF Senior Policy Manager



Reforms to regulation of agricultural chemicals and veterinary medicines.

Australian Dairy Farmers Limited and Dairy Australia welcome the release of draft legislation designed to implement reforms for the use of agricultural chemicals and veterinary medicines on Australian farms.

Australian Dairy Farmers is the peak dairy industry body representing dairy farmers and Dairy Australia is the dairy industry-owned service company, limited by guarantee, whose members are farmers and industry bodies, including the Australian Dairy Farmers, and the Australian Dairy Products Federation

Australian dairy is a \$13 billion farm, manufacturing and export industry.

Australia's 6700 dairy farmers produce around 9.5 billion litres of milk a year.

The Australian dairy industry directly employs 43,000 Australians on farms and in factories, while more than 100,000 Australians are indirectly employed in related service industries.

Our industry has the potential to grow substantially over the next decade to meet growing domestic and international demand.

Realising this growth potential and expanding the industry's economic, social and environment benefits depends on a positive national and international operating environment.

Proposed legislation

The dairy industry supports the government's initiative to modernize and simplify the legislation and to reduce the red tape associated with the use of agvet chemicals on Australian farms. Effective agricultural chemicals and veterinary medicines are critical for successful farm businesses and the importance of responsible use of chemicals is well understood and supported by the dairy industry.

Dairy farmers need access to safe, affordable and effective agricultural chemicals and veterinary medicines in order to manage pests and diseases that would otherwise threaten production of safe food. This is also important to achieve satisfactory animal health and animal welfare outcomes.

The dairy industry supports the removal of the requirement for agvet chemical re-approval and re-registrations, particularly where these products have a history of safe use. The re-registration process has been an unnecessary burden with little justification. The reforms will reduce red tape, improve efficiency and avoid the loss of established treatments.

The dairy industry looks forward to the introduction of the proposed legislative reforms and their implementation by the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority.

David Losberg
Senior Policy Manager
Australian Dairy Farmers Limited

Robin Condon
Manager Animal Health and Welfare
Dairy Australia

7th March 2014