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20 MAR 2009

Senator the Hon. Ian Macdonald  
Townsville Office

14TH March, 2009.

Dear Senator *the Hon. I. Macdonald,*

We are writing to seek your support in our mission to protect some of the finest and most valuable food producing land in this country.

The area for which we are speaking stretches from Murrurundi in the south through the Liverpool Plains taking in Willow Tree, Quirindi, Gunnedah, Narrabri and all the black soil plains to Moree and beyond.

The Liverpool Plains in Northern NSW, in particular, is probably some of the most valuable, diverse food producing land in the World let alone Australia!

The reasons this land is so valuable are as follows:-

The rich black soil plains,

The very favourable weather patterns (reliable rainfall);

Daily temperature conducive to high grain production;

Underground water for both domestic Town and Agricultural irrigation purposes.

These qualities all make for a high production of winter crops of wheat, barley, canola and many numerous other crops and summer crops of sorghum, sunflowers, corn and cotton and on top of this there is massive beef, fat lamb and pork productions.

This country is in peril of being destroyed forever by the quick dollar producing coal industry. Not only will mining this land destroy totally its productivity as a food producer for our Australia and exports but it will also destroy the underground water aquifers, which eventually feed into The Murray Darling System.

We need Federal protection of all our valuable Agricultural land to sustain food and water production for the generations to come.

One only has to observe what has happened to agricultural land on the coast which used to be fine dairy farms, market gardens and orchards and poultry farms now covered in houses.

If this form of development is allowed to continue what will people eat? - Coal, Concrete or import all our food from China as we seem to do everything else.

**We are calling on the Australian Government to Legislate to protect Australia's Prime Agricultural land and have it treated as a National Asset and seek your support to achieve our aim.**

**We are retiring grain growers concerned about the lives of our children and grandchildren.**

**We are members of the Caroon Coal Action Group which was formed by very worried and concerned community people to take a stance on coal exploration and mining by BHP Billiton through a licence granted them by the NSW Government. For more information regarding the action being taken by the Caroon Coal Action Group go to their web site [www.ccag.org.au](http://www.ccag.org.au).**

**You may be surprised in what you see!**

**From 2 very concerned Aussie Farmers,**

**Grant and Kaye Chambers**

*K Chambers*

