

RECEIVED

17 MAR 2009

Senator the Hon Jeff P. Smith
Townsville Office

Dear Senator the Hon I.D. Macdonald,

I'm writing you in the hope of finding some sense & compassion on a topic that is not only dear to my heart, but also for the hundreds of other farming families locked in a battle with B.K.P. who have plans to mine coal from beneath The Liverpool Plains, one of Australia's richest food growing areas.

There is also a very high possibility that should mining take place, our vast underground water supply the Namoi Catchment, part of which flows into the Murray Darling Basin, could be destroyed.

I urge the Australian Government to legislate to protect Australian Prime Agricultural land & also our underground water supply as this will protect & secure domestic food supply, offer export growth & International leverage as the demand for food rises over the next few decades.

Living in this beautiful area is a God given privilege, I would not like to see any of it destroyed through mining & have nothing left to pass on to future generations of farmers.

Yours Sincerely,
Colleen Gardner.