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Sen P
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Dear Senator,

I am writing in order to draw your attention to the great risk to prime agricultural country from coal mining & gas mining.

I am a farmer on the rich Liverpool Plains at Breeza. We run a very successful fourth generation family farm ,farming approximately 10,000 acres .Year in and year out we produce wheat ,sorghum, sunflowers, chickpeas, canola & beef cattle. Our production is currently under threat by inappropriate development and flawed state planning laws.

The Mooki River ,which is a crucial part of the Murray Darling Basin , flows through our property and we have high quality water aquifers running beneath. As Senate is currently enquiring into the importance of food security I urge you to use your voice to legislate to protect Prime Agricultural Land.

General facts about the Liverpool Plain which I feel you should be aware of-

Crops consistently yield 40% above the national average.(ABARE)

Produces over one third of NSW totals summer crop.

It is capable of producing both summer and winter crops with 3 crops in 2 years considered quite normal.

We contribute \$332 million to GDP from our top 5 agricultural commodities alone.

Beef production alone generates \$110 million.

Over 100 agricultural enterprises support this diverse wealth of food production.

Using ABARE's 16 year average , each year we produce sufficient raw materials for

-365 million loaves of bread

-62.5million packets of pasta

-144million bottles of beer

-5.4million packs of muesli

-8 million litres of sunflower oil

-58 million boxes of cornflakes

-276 million pairs of jeans

5.5billion pairs of socks

-886 million bath towels

We produce 233,000 tonnes of sorghum to feed cattle, pigs & chickens.

I call on the government to legislate to protect Australia's Prime Agricultural Land and have it treated as a National Asset. We cannot afford to lose any more arable country when food security is becoming such a crucial issue throughout the world.

Yours sincerely,



Peta Craig