

Thursday, 22 April 2010

Committee Secretary
Senate Standing Committee on Community Affairs
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600
Australia

To whom it may concern

Re: Submission for Food Standards Amendment (Truth in Labelling – Palm Oil) Bill 2009

Having recently watched the documentary called “The Burning Season” and witnessing the devastation caused by land clearing for growing palms for Palm Oil production, we feel it is vital that Palm Oil is clearly labelled so that we can make the choice of not purchasing product that is destroying the territory of the orangutan.

As the documentary showed the growing of palm oil is creating heart-ache for local farmers as well as for native species. The smoke generated from burning off is causing health problems for the local people as well as animals. Many farmers would be happy to farm in alternate, less destructive ways, if provided sustainable opportunities by their government.

The health implications of using products high in palm oil also make this a worthwhile legislative initiative to allow consumers to know what they are actually consuming.

We wish to confirm that we would like the secretariat to consider my email to be a submission and may be made public including publishing on the web.

Yours faithfully

Sue and Phil Dowson