

To whom it may concern,

My name is Karen Beath and I wish to make a submission about the Food Standards Amendment (Truth in Labelling – Palm Oil) Bill 2009.

I first heard of the plight of the Orang Utans while watching a Foreign Correspondent documentary in 2006. This episode was extremely graphic and detailed the loss of both the Orangutans and their habitat for illegal farming of palm oil. Some of the acts committed directly against the Orangutans were appalling. They included the murder of a young Orangutan's parents and the prostitution of a female Orang Utan. Here is a link to the transcript of that episode:

<http://www.abc.net.au/foreign/content/2006/s1746123.htm>

Whenever I go shopping now, I wonder if I am indirectly contributing towards these acts by buying products that contain illegally farmed palm oil.

I believe Australians should have a right to know what we are consuming and where it comes from. Not all Australians will boycott products made by corporations that obtain palm oil illegally, but we need to be given the right and ability to make a choice whether or not to buy these products. In this increasingly environmentally conscious day and age, corporations should be more candid about their actions and responsibilities.

I plead with you to please give me and other Australians the opportunity to decide for ourselves what we'd like to consume.

Thankyou for listening.

Kind Regards,

Karen Beath