

Sirs/Madam:

I recommend its rejection for the following reasons.

It is unacceptable for the Government of one of our major trading partners to move to a position where that foreign Government may influence, or even determine, the supply and price of the commodity to itself. Foreign customers should never have control of the supply chain.

The Australian Government must use its relevant power to control the highly undesirable acquisition by any company/corporation/organization owned or controlled by any foreign government to acquire a significant shareholding in any company carrying on a significant part of its business in Australia. This is particularly important when that business is the extraction and export of Australia's natural resources.

If the acquisitions are allowed, the foreign Government could exercise control, not only through its voting power on the Company board, but also through its trading power by virtue of the flow of other goods exchanged between our two countries.

Our entire economy will be put at risk by the Chinese Government. This has the real potential to also put at risk the independence of both our foreign and domestic policies while such investment power lies in the hands of a foreign government.

Do not allow this to occur.

Susan Butler