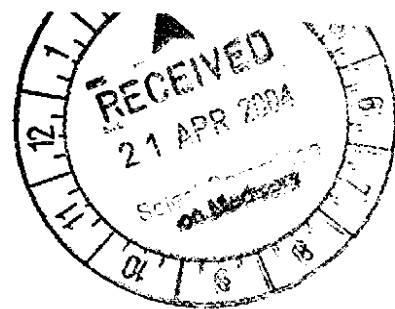


The Senate Select Committee on the
United States Free Trade Agreement
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600



To the Committee,

I strongly protest the signing of the United States
Free Trade Agreement (USFTA) for the following reasons:-

1. The economic benefits are not clear (probably not meant to be) and does it stop Australia having Free Trade Agreements with other Nations.
2. The USFTA dispute process limits our democracy.
3. It will result in higher costs for medicines.
4. Extension of copyright means higher costs for libraries and education institutions.
5. There will be restrictions on regulation of investment and services.
6. There will be fewer rights to review foreign investment.
7. And there will be fewer rights to regulate essential services.
8. Particularly at risk are our water services.
9. The US will have too much influence on quarantine and labelling.
10. There will be restrictions on Australian content rules in new media and
Job losses will result from tariff cuts and changes to government purchasing rules.
The US tariffs on beef, lamb etc. will only be

phased in over a period of 18 years. Why? Because it is disastrous for our farmers and is an unfair Agreement. There is no benefit in it for Australia but only benefits the US otherwise there would be no such Agreement. Remember how Britain left us on the lurch to join the European Common Market. Australia found new trading partners in Asia only to have the Americans undercut the prices of our wheat etc. to crash in on the deal. Our two allies have a habit of dragging Australia into catastrophic situations and using us for their gain. There is no reward for us without having to pay for it in some way. For what it is worth I do not want to see Australia become the 51st State of America, or have the American Flag flying over Parliament House and Government buildings. Let us Advance Australia and not give in to our Allies. Say "NO" to the USFTA.

Yours truly

Heather Graham.