

TG and FL Reed

'Brentwood'
Mall Service 192
Dalby, Qld. 4405.

5 February, 2004

Mr Geoff Dawson
 Acting Secretary
 Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committees
 SG 62 Parliament House
 Canberra, ACT, 2600

Att. The Senate Committee Re. The Inquiry into the Import Risk Analysis for Pig Meat

Following is our response to the draft IRA for the import of pig meat into Australia.

- Safeguarding the existing health status of the Australian domestic and export pork industry is paramount. As Australian citizens we do not have the right to dilute this standard in any way.
- Any breakdown in our current health status would have enormous ramifications on an already struggling industry. We continually feel the effects of drought and lack of access to feed grain at world party prices.
- Any breakdown in our current health status would cause damage to us as suppliers to the huge food bowl of South East Asia. As proven, this market is now being developed.
- PMWS – We have concerns regarding the cooking time and temperatures outlined in the IRA. The time not being sufficient to minimize disease risks.
- PRRS – Cooking off shore should be the only acceptable method to minimize risk. This would then ensure that there would be no transmission of this disease within Australia.
- Cooking on our shore provides no buffer zone at all.
- Potential economic impact would be massive.
 - * Totally destroy our clean green image
 - * Totally destroy our marginal competitive edge

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- Already proven and recognised as a disaster is the movement of imported pork within Australian shores. We refer to a trucking accident on the North Coast of NSW some time ago. Whilst we do not agree with road transport of the pork in Australia, if it has to be, then it should be processed within a very conservative radius of port. Our thought would be 50 kms maximum.
- This whole IRA if accepted, has the potential to allow larger quantities of pork to be imported and remember, the larger the quantity – the larger the risk.
- Finally, we don't allow our children to play with loaded guns so why, as adults, can we consider the actions discussed. You are playing with a loaded gun!!
- Meat production across the world continues to experience new and existing diseases in new areas. This alone should be enough information to keep our doors as closed as we possibly can in the national interest of Australia.
- We would be available to attend a public hearing regarding this topic.

Sincerely,



Terry Reed
For TG and FL Reed
'Brentwood Piggery'