

053 857511

Burrereo Pty Ltd
39 Market Street
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3/3/2003

Secretary
Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600



Dear Sir

I wish to forward a submission to your committee regarding the Wheat Export Authority Levy.

We are Wimmera wheat growers who have strongly supported the noodle wheat breeding program at the Horsham Institute during the 1980s and 1990s.

We developed excellent markets in Asia for noodle wheats with defined qualities, which added sizeable premiums to our wheat crop, produced jobs to our rural areas and filled those empty ship containers that were being taken back to Asia. We produced all the evidence of these marketing opportunities in Asia to the National Competition Policy Review of December 2000 under the Chairman Malcolm Irving. The recommendation from this committee was outstanding and which was to make this market contestable. Page 163 of Report December 2000.

Since the N.C.P. Review we have not exported one container of noodle wheat to Asia, despite several applications.

The W.E.A. sees dangers to the single desk if permits to export are granted. They prefer to see farmers pour their grain down an open grate and sell at a discount in bulk markets.

This container market for special quality wheat was successful but quite costly to service over the few years following the government of the day decision during 1991 to freely trade this market

It was disappointing to us when the government changed the guidelines and destroyed this market.

It is totally disgusting and shocking to wheat growers to hear Federal Politicians now promoting a new Export Development Fund to encourage rural communities to value add and export.

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Politicians enjoy making laws

Politicians enjoy breaking laws

The courts are now seeing the Constitution of the Wheat Marketing Act as above the single desk.

Examine the work of our State and Federal Ministers of Agriculture who meet at regular intervals to improve the dynamics of Agriculture. They have talented and informed advisors, they have the services of the National Competition Policy Reviews, the A.C.C.C. the Trade Practices Act, Auditors and the Auditor General. The Police Fraud Squad, A.Q.U.I.S. and now they want open ended funding of a very expensive Wheat Export Authority with no expertise in international marketing. (Quote from Trevor Flugge on retirement from the A.W.B.)

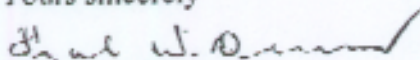
There is no understanding between these government taxpayer funded identities, yet wheat growers have to obey their various interpretations of the law.

Thankfully in Victoria we have a choice in how we market all our grains except wheat.

We have a dynamic market for these other grains and basically we understand the rules. But wheat is 60% of the Victorian grain market which makes our choice very limited.

THIS WHEAT EXPORT AUTHORITY LEVY IS WRONG.

Yours sincerely



FRANK W DRUM