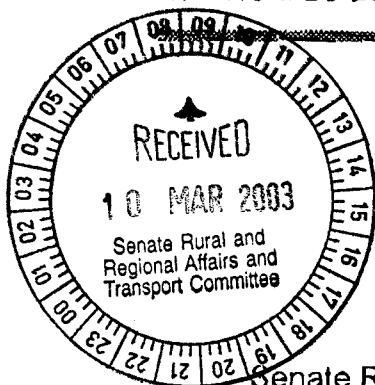


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Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport

9 March 2003

Inquiry into the Wheat Marketing Amendment Bill 2002

This is a time when the WA Grain Growing Industry must stand united. Directors of AWB and CBH/Grain Pool of WA need to have a look back over the last 3 years to see what happens when they try to enter the highflying corporate world. Our industry basically hasn't changed, and therefore we need little structural change, commonsense being the main ingredient.

Directors need to realise that they are there for the growers. They are not there to be brainwashed by executives who want to build up empires. The memory of how one director and shareholders managed to defeat privatization of CBH is fresh in our memories and getting clearer

WA growers are looking for three major objectives:-profitability, stability and efficiency. I believe the majority of growers want CBH/GPWA to concentrate on its core business of handling grain (not trucking etc), a task in which they are world leaders. Growers are also wholeheartedly behind the "Blueprint for Success" (efficiency) and if AWB doesn't co-operate, then the majority believe that CBH/GPWA should have control of wheat through either a second desk or maybe the single desk itself.

Our message to CBH is to keep, and not sell or lease any part of our co-operative and to the AWB, now is the time to try and tidy up the catastrophic disaster that they have initiated.

Trevor Badger

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