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17 June 2004

The Secretariat
Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee
Room SG.62,
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Sirs,

I write this submission to lodge my response to the Revised draft IRA on New Zealand apples. My family and I are orchardists in the Goulburn Valley region of Victoria.

I find it hard to believe we as a country are contemplating raising the risk of contracting this disease and I do not believe we should allow the importation of fruit from any country that has this disease there are many reasons that I believe support this view but I want to mention three that I feel should be considered before any decision is made.

1. I disagree with any increase of risk but your own report is based on a risk over only one year when in fact the risk will be cumulative over many years
2. The recommendation does not factor in the possibility of the disease to utilize a number of hosts particularly common weeds
3. N.Z. growers are human and the issue of handling errors and illegal acts has not been taken into account. It is in an importers interest for the disease to be established in Australia

I strongly ask you to reconsider the importation of this disease and its effect on our industry

Yours sincerely,

Shane Hall
Director