

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

Re: Revised Draft IRA on New Zealand Apples.

Our family company is a vertically integrated company in the Australian apple industry with operations based in the Batlow and Tumut districts of New South Wales and our wholesaling operations in Sydney Markets.

We are deeply concerned with the current proposal for the import of apples from New Zealand as presented by Biosecurity Australia in the Revised Draft IRA.

We are concerned that the science in the draft IRA and science that is not quoted in the process is contradictory to the proposals. We believe that these contradictions have arisen because Biosecurity Australia has discarded the “precautionary principle” for the “least restrictive trade” ideology effectively discounting any science that does not support its proposed IRA.

We are bewildered that our industry can be threatened in such a fundamental way by obvious flaws in logic and principle by one governmental authority.

We trust that your committee will be able to correct the inadequacies of the current process and the resultant proposal and prevent the entry of New Zealand apples before the Australian industry is destroyed.

Faithfully Yours,
Director
The N&A Fruit Distributors Pty. Ltd.
Mr R.C.Cathels