

Senate Standing Committees on Economics
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

6th February 2014

Reserve Bank Amendment (Australian Reconstruction and Development Board) Bill 2013

The agricultural industry is the backbone to Australia's economy. As a group of people we have stood the test of time. When other industries decide that they are not making money they pack up and move on. The mining industry offered all people the chance to make it rich. The wages were exorbitant and pushed the price of everything upwards. It took our young men and women off the land because the land couldn't offer the big money or the "lifestyle".

We are the only industry that doesn't get to set our prices. We know what we would like to sell our grain for, what we think our cattle are worth but at the end of the day we get paid at what the market decides. We budget every year on what we think it is worth – a budget that very rarely is correct. During a good season there is very little extra money. During a drought there is even less and that is when feed commodities for the livestock go sky high.

I support the Australian Reconstruction Development Bill. We don't want to be labelled as whingers – we would just like a fair go. We choose to live here, we know the weather can be cruel, we understand that times can get tough, and we would just like some-one who understands us. Australia is a great nation we just need the next generation of great farmer's.

Yours sincerely

Scott & Tricia Fea