

12 December 2011

Committee Secretary  
Senate Standing Committees on Environment and Communications  
PO Box 6100  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600  
Australia  
[ec.sen@aph.gov.au](mailto:ec.sen@aph.gov.au)

Dear Environment and Communications Legislation Committee

**RE: Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment (Emergency Listings) Bill 2011**

The National Farmers' Federation (NFF) welcomes the opportunity to make a submission to the Environment and Communications Legislation Committee's inquiry into the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment (Emergency Listings) Bill 2011*.

The NFF notes that the Bill provides for the emergency listing of threatened species and ecological communities where they are at risk from a significant and imminent threat and deals with emergency events as a trigger for threatened species.

The NFF cannot support this Bill due to its retrospective provisions, which significantly increases uncertainty for the agricultural industry and for that matter any development.

Furthermore, the NFF strongly advocates that if any further changes are to be recommended for the EPBC Act, then they should be considered as part of the reform of the EPBC Act being proposed by the Australian Government in 2012.

Yours faithfully

**MATT LINNEGAR**  
Chief Executive Officer