

16D-005

12 October 2016

Senate Economics Reference Committee
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

By email:- economics.sen@aph.gov.au

Dear Committee Chair,

Re: Inquiry into the Australian Dairy Industry

The National Union of Workers (**NUW**) represents more than 4,000 dairy workers around Australia.

The NUW is concerned about the growing power of the supermarket duopoly and the unsustainable pressure it places on the entire dairy supply chain.

This pressure has taken the form of downward pressure on NUW members' wages and conditions and retrospective cuts to farmers' farm gate price.

It has also contributed to the growing job insecurity among NUW members in the dairy industry.

The supermarket contract model has provided an incentive to producers to undercut competitors for prized work, while simultaneously damaging their own (sustainable) brands.

Dairy workers and farmers alike deserve better.

The NUW seeks a sustainable dairy industry where workers' and farmers' livelihoods are not subject to the whims of large processors and supermarket giants.

Yours faithfully,

TIM KENNEDY
NATIONAL SECRETARY

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FOR WORKPLACE SUPPORT

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