

Submission for Senate Inquiry into
Native Vegetation Laws, Greenhouse Gas Abatement and Climate
Change Measures.

Senate Finance and Public Administration Committee

1.a. We are 4th generation farmers to live on our 336 acres farm at

Of this about 200 acres would be impacted by Native Vegetation Laws. May I add at this point we have never been notified what's what. We have preserved this land over time and feel very angry that Governments can take a blanket control without any consultation or compensation. It is obvious that this is a money grab (to satisfy the Kyoto protocol). We believe our freehold possession under The Australian Constitution should be honoured. This land has had timber harvested over the years without degradation. We have 4 adult children whom we had hoped would be able to use timber for homes if so desired. Like most farm children ours contributed greatly to the work on farm, particularly when we operated as a dairy farm until Dairy Deregulation forced us to close down. We also operated a 35 sow piggery until Canadian Imports influenced us to exit pig production. (all govt introduced regulations) A lot of this land is not steep or river banks.

Our second property (having also been in family ownership since 1940) This property is also 300 acres and is about half affected by these laws. Most affected land is however regrowth from about 1970. This was formerly a productive dairy farm and most of the regrowth land is gentle ridges which could again be productive land.

Our sons hope in the future to be able to use some of this for horticulture purposes. Roy and I receive a small aged pension and this property is assessed as an asset against our pension, so not only can we not use this land, have to pay rates, public liability insurance, control weeds etc. but the Govt gains once again in reduced pension.

We have not had occasion to have our farms valued but feel our timber asset at this time should be increasing the value not decreasing. Who would want to buy property that has these unbelievable restrictions on it.

We feel angry that we have protected our native veg for so long only to lose rights to and return from due to Native Veg Laws.

b. We feel strongly we should be fully compensated for credits the Australian Governments have already taken from us and then very cunningly told us old old growth forest does not sequester carbon.

c. No comment

d. We see the severity of this law in the extreme action of Peter Spencer. How do Governments bring in laws that push people to this extent?

We also see the hundreds of suicides as farming people are devastated and we

hear the Prime Minister and Primary Industries Minister say they cannot support people who do self harm. As well as suicides there have been many many family breakdowns , children denied there stable childhood etc. How much money has been spent on mental health issues. Just maybe if Property Rights were recognized the mental health issue in the bush would be much less. Common sense says treat the cause as well as the symptoms

Most city and country people tell us they want Australian food. Well it does not seem the Australian Govts share this view. Its now been pig meat, dairy, horticulture and right now beef that have been attacked by imports.

Our manufacturing industry has long been destroyed by cheap imports.

Last weekend at Mass at Taylors Arm we had a visiting priest from NSW Central Coast. This topic was discussed. He was fabigasted; his comments were “They(the Govt) can’t do that “ Well it seems YES they can and they ARE.