

Dear Committee Members and MPs,

The latest news of a whale shark, albatross and yet more seals being caught by the nets of the super trawler Geelong Star is the last straw. I am writing to tell you of my shock and opposition to the ongoing operation of the factory freezer trawler Geelong Star and to urge you to support the permanent banning of all such vessels in the Australian Small Pelagic Fishery.

I am one of the majority of Australians who do not support the use of foreign factory freezer trawlers in this fishery. I want long term, sustainable fishing industries that don't undermine other recreational fishing, tourism, or environmental values, and I don't believe that super trawlers are a part of that future.

The Australian Government is responsible for managing Australia's fisheries on behalf of the Australian public and it should start responding to what the public wants – no super trawlers.

Whaling remains banned because it is considered unacceptable to Australian values. Those values underpin and underwrite our fisheries management. No Australian fishery has been as controversial, since commercial whaling was ended. I do not consider super trawlers acceptable in Australian waters and I am outraged that public opinion has been ignored for so long by AFMA and the Government.

Please accept this as a submission to the Senate Inquiry into the environmental, social and economic impacts of large-capacity fishing vessels commonly known as 'Supertrawlers' operating in Australia's Marine Jurisdiction.

Yours sincerely