

Cathy Nesbitt

Committee Secretary,  
Senate Standing Committees on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport  
Department of the Senate  
PO Box 6100  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600  
AUSTRALIA

Dear Committee,

Re regulatory approaches to ensure the safety of pet food.

I am a family inclusive of 2 dogs and a cat, and am delighted that the safety of processed pet food is being investigated by the Australian Government.

Please do everything in your power to ensure the Pet Food Industry of Australia is properly regulated, with preventative measures in place to mitigate the risks of contaminants and toxins in processed pet foods, more stringent standards, and better consumer transparency.

I have personally purchased Applaws dry dog food (a brand I was previously happy buying for almost 2 years, and which my dogs seemed to enjoy) which has had mould inside the bag. The bag was sealed and was at least 18mths within date. I contacted Applaws, along with a group of other concerned owners and was told that they weren't concerned as the mould was harmless. No recall of their food was made and I have since heard of other bags with mould in them being purchased. I cannot imagine that any human food with mould on it would be acceptable for purchase because the company didn't believe the mould to be harmless.

I shall be pleased to provide any information that you may require.

I agree to the publication of my submission on the Internet.

With thanks,  
Cathy Nesbitt.