

In response to the inquiry into the importation of beef into Australia from BSE infected countries, I believe that the economic impact will destroy a lot of farmer's livelihoods and as we produce enough beef to supply all our own domestic markets and export 60% as well, I see no need to import any from overseas.

At the moment we have a clean green image which will be damaged by the risk of importation.

The diseases that pose our greatest risks will be BSE and FMD. AQIS has proven, with the introduction of Equine Flu, that they are incapable of screening for diseases. The risk to the cattle industry is massive not negligible, if these diseases get in then our industry will be destroyed.

The carbon foot print will be massive; the energy used to import unwanted beef into a country that already has enough beef makes a farce of the supposed climate change debacle.

Who will be accountable if there is an out break of these diseases?

Who will be responsible for compensation for existing stock and future income?

Don't risk it!!!

Regards  
Gwen Moore