

19 November 2014

Agricultural Competitiveness Taskforce
Department of the Prime Minister & Cabinet
PO Box 6500
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Sirs,

I can't afford to run a computer, so don't know what your plans are on the web site, but I would like to submit the following:-

- 1/ You will not boost Australia's agricultural competitiveness or profitability for Australians by selling our dairy farms & farming land to foreign companies or governments.
- 2/ You should encourage Australian companies, super funds & individuals to buy farms which are for sale.
- 3/ Build infrastructure to harvest water from excess rainfall for use in dry times.
- 4/ Open-cut mines should never be approved on farming land as that land will never produce anything ever again once the mine runs out.
 - a) No politician has ever given facts & figures as to the monetary gain to Australia by a foreign-owned farm; (taxes, export dollars etc). My information is we get nothing.
 - b) There are wealthy Australian companies, super funds & individuals who could own & run our farms if governments encouraged them.

What percentage of foreign-owned farms does government consider to be enough? 50%, 80%, 100%? When will there be enough?

- c) Dams, pipelines could be installed by government. Coal seam gas mining/fracking by mostly foreign-owned mining companies is depleting our Artesian Basin of water at a rapid rate & no one knows, or cares, about the consequences of that.
- d) Open-cut mines should be fitted in when production ends.

I grew up on a farm so I have great concern about what governments, both Liberal & Labor, have allowed to happen to our farming land & communities.

Yours faithfully,
Deane Phillips