



17 April 2014

Agricultural Competitiveness Taskforce
Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet
PO Box 6500
CANBERRA, ACT 2600

Dear Taskforce,

I write to say the biggest impediment to business in Australia generally is regulations and red tape. We keep hearing how Australia is a high cost country, and frequently this is largely attributed to wage rates and exchange rates. Whilst these may be major reasons, they are by no means the whole of the story. Regulation in this country has gone beyond what is reasonable.

In my case, the Native Vegetation Act imposes restraints and costs which are a very significant impediment to profitability. It seems crazy to me that we are so restricted in relation to tree removal when in my Shire (Eurobodalla) some 80% of the area is either National Park or State Forest.

I shall leave it at that.

Thank you.

Yours faithfully,

Harry Bate

HARRY G BATE