The Chair,
Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Reference Committee,

Re: Call for submission on the National Interest Test as applied to purchases of Australian agricultural Land

Dear Sir/Madam

I respectively submit that the major focus on any assessment of the National Interest of purchase of Australian agricultural land by this Committee should focus on:

1 The credible issue on land ownership, water and land degradation and authority for selling off the farm for agriculture, coal seam gas exploration and other mining development regardless of value be recorded within a register of foreign ownership managed by the Foreign Investment Review Board

2 That all Australian land now held in foreign ownership and future purchase be registered, authorised and supervised by the Foreign Investment Review Board, and that the Board maintain a register of agricultural land that cannot be accessed for mining, coal seam gas exploration or production of either.

3 That the enquiry consider that all foreign owned land now held directly, in trust by any foreign owned company, government entity, individual or partnership be transferred in title to a 99 year lease as operates in the ACT.

4 That any future purchases of land in Australia by any trust, foreign owned company, foreign government entity, individual or partnership only be allowed to be held in title under a 99 year lease as operates in the ACT.

5 That the sale of the land under lease by a private individual, corporation trust or partnership have the new holding title be held in the name of the Commonwealth with the sale proceeds to the vendor, and with an annual land tax applied for payment to the Commonwealth of 100% of any local government rate tax. In the event a local government tax is not applied then one be struck and applied.

6 That any lease approved for food production have an Australian Government Audit on the value of production produced at current market value and carry an export tax set at 25% of the net value.

7 That no Export Development Grants apply to any produce produced on any land held under ownership or lease by any trust, foreign owned company, foreign government entity, individual or partnership.

8 That a survey of all land held by foreign entities described above be taken under Environmental protection recording visual condition of the land at the time of signing a contract and that such contracts contain provisions to guarantee the Commonwealth that any land, water or animal degradation be the liability of the leasee and that a bond equivalent to 25% of the sale price be provided by the purchaser to be held in trust by the Commonwealth to cover any degradation or damage.

9 That each 5 years of the lease a survey be taken to ascertain the environmental impact of any farming or stock raised on the lease.

10 That every 10 years of any lease the bond be increased at the 25% rate in line with the state or federal governments valuation.

These conditions should be applied to protect the sovereignty of the people of Australia over the production of food by any foreign trust, foreign owned company, foreign government entity, individual or partnership and return a dividend to the people of this Commonwealth for the use of our land.

We respectfully submit that the sovereign rights of Australians is being disregarded in allowing foreign trusts, foreign owned company, foreign government entity, individual or partnership to produce food using our land without any consideration or control on who is controlling this production.

Further that the sovereign rights of Australians is being disregarded in allowing foreign trusts, foreign owned company, foreign government entity, individual or partnership and Australian Mining companies,

whether they be the sole entity or in joint venture to conduct exploration or production for coal seam gas on land being used for primary production.

IT IS TIME THAT THE AUSTRALIAN PARLIAMENT PROTECT OUR SOVERIEGNTY.

Yours faithfully

Signed

Michael & Cheryl Wolf

Paul & Diane Wolf

Elisa Maple

Rebecca Wolf

Brady, Kristy & Olivia Maple

Alexandra and Tim Prescott