



Australian Dairy Industry Council Inc.

8 August 2005

Mr Peter Corish
Chair
Agriculture and Food Policy Reference Group
GPO Box 858
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Email: secretariat@agfoodgroup.gov.au

Dear Peter,

**Re: Dairy Industry Submission to:
Agriculture and Food Policy Reference Group
Ensuring a profitable and sustainable agriculture and food sector in Australia**

Please find attached a copy of the dairy industry's submission to your review. This submission is provided on behalf of the Australian dairy industry by the Australian Dairy Industry Council (ADIC), supported by Dairy Australia (DA).

The ADIC is the peak policy body for the dairy industry and its two constituent organisations are the Australian Dairy Farmers (ADF) and the Australian Dairy Products Federation (ADPF). These industry organisations are responsible for developing and advocating industry policy. Dairy Australia (DA) is the industry-owned service company, whose members are farmers and the peak industry policy organisations, ADF and ADPF. DA's role is to support the industry organisations through collective action and access to information. It can help inform policy making, but does not undertake agripolitical activities. The policy areas outlined in this submission have been determined through the ADF/ADPF/ADIC – where DA has made a contribution, it has been to provide underlying information for consideration when policy decisions are taken.

The Executive Summary provides an overview of the key issues the dairy industry wishes to highlight to the Review. The rest of the Submission addresses each of the questions raised in the Review Committee's Issues Paper by providing some background comments on where the industry has positioned itself. In attempting to provide comments on each of the questions raised, there is the risk that the comments made will be seen to be the full spectrum of the dairy industry's position/views. This is not necessarily the case. The comments however, are included to indicate the issues and views the dairy industry itself has raised and is currently grappling with as the industry moves forward, following deregulation and the worst drought on record.

The dairy industry does not purport to have the answers to all the issues raised, but it would like to work with government and other agencies in a joint effort to try and find solutions and help ensure the dairy industry's vision "to grow an internationally competitive, innovative and sustainable dairy industry" is achieved.

I look forward to your Group's report and recommendations to address a number of common issues.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Allan Burgess', written over a horizontal line.

Allan Burgess
Chairman

MILK MATTERS