

TYPEWRITTEN COPY OF HAND WRITTEN SUBMISSION

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Impact of Competition Policy Reforms Inquiry  
Productivity Commission

I have been dairy farming all my life, now aged 68 years and can't see any future for my family to survive under deregulation of the dairy industry.

The loss of income for our milk has been approximately \$11,000 from July 1998 compared to the same period last year and the costs haven't decreased to produce the product.

The deregulation isn't suited to the dairy industry and the only benefits are for supermarkets and processors. We have produced a high quality product for many years and are being forced to accept less under deregulation.

In 1956 I purchased 100 acres of land covered in lantana trees and blackberries etc. I cleaned it and sown down paddocks with grass, fenced the property and the farm had no buildings.

In 1967 I had to build milking and hay sheds and started off dairy farming with around 200 litres per day Quota. After a lot of hard work myself, wife and son have bought two other properties to increase milk production and our Quota is now approximately 1326 litres per day - and now find deregulation is trying to take it from us.

My wife and I have had four children, one son and three daughters who have families of their own. None of us have claimed the dole from the Government but if this deregulation is to take our income away, we will have no option but apply for Government assistance.

Yours faithfully

Keith Harris