

**IMPACT OF COMPETITION POLICY REFORMS INQUIRY
PRODUCTIVITY COMMISSION
P.O. BOX 80
BELCONNEN A.C.T. 2616**

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

We wish to make our submission to the Commission of Inquiry into Deregulation of the Dairy Industry.

With the events of the past few months since deregulation as become a reality, we are not satisfied that the farm-gate price has been reduced and that our income has been substantially reduced. Not only that, the consumer price has increased - at our expense- and Multinational Supermarket profits have soared.

Our real concern is that the Dairy Industry, which has been the backbone of the Australian Economy for decades, is being undermined and the Family Farm is under real threat.

The Family Farm is the last stronghold to be destroyed and we fear that the Australian Economy will suffer irreparable damage if this eventuates. The generations of acquired knowledge and building quality stock will vanish and will be replaced with mechanized establishments run by Multinational corporations or imported products which will be of no benefit what-so-ever to the Australian Economy or unemployment. The younger generation of farmers is being destroyed now, as you must be aware and youth suicide in country areas due to unemployment is a real catastrophe.

Continuing high costs with this unfair deduction due to deregulation will force the family unit to cut expenses where possible, which will have enormous effects on other businesses that service the farming sector.

No. We are not happy with deregulation and we want to maintain quotas. That is our only hope.

We have proved we are good suppliers through many adversities. We had to prove we could supply quota milk when there was not enough milk to supply the cities in the winter months. We paid heavily for the privilege to acquire a quota and supply milk seven days a week - 365 days a year. With the downturn in the Beef market during the 60's, some of our quota was absconded to the North Coast and Bega farmers who did not have to qualify in the same way. A most unfair act at the time, similar to the events which are taking place at this present time with deregulation.

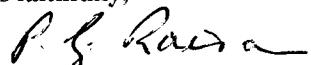
Unfortunately, Desk Jockeys make most of these decisions. We include Mr. Hilmer in this category.

The main points that we earnestly request the Commission take into consideration is a viable farm gate price. Destruction of the Industry is inevitable if a fair price to the producer is not maintained.

Milk is a vital commodity. Here in N.S.W. as a supplier to Dairy Farmers, we are subjected to stringent testing for a quality product, which we are very conscientious about. We fear if the Family Farm unit is destroyed and replaced by the multi, mechanised feed lot dairies, pricing will be chaotic which ultimately will be determined by "big business" and quality control will be a thing of the past.

We are very proud of our achievements and do not want to see our efforts destroyed through greed and only want a "fair go".

Yours faithfully,


**P.G. & M.M. RAISON
"GLENCOE"
Jerrara, Via KIAMA. N.S.W. 2533
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