



Export Quality Produce Bundaberg, Queensland, Australia ABN: 19 010 745 294

27 August 2010

Mr EJ Hall Chief Executive Queensland Competition Authority GPO Box 2257 BRISBANE Q 4001

Dear Sir,

Re: Nodal Pricing in the Bundaberg Water Supply Scheme

I write to you as Managing Director of SP Exports with great concern regarding the investigation of nodal pricing within the Bundaberg Water Supply Scheme.

SP Exports prides itself on being Australia's premier field grown tomato producer. Since 1952 our passion and commitment to producing quality fresh produce has led us to become the largest producer of tomatoes in Australia with crops within the Bundaberg region covering 600ha.

We supply tomatoes to supermarkets, retailers and wholesalers throughout the nation and export to the Asia Pacific markets. We employ both local residents along with overseas and Australian backpackers, with annual payroll totalling \$22m.

SP Exports owns or leases all of the land, plant and equipment used in its operations. We utilise surplus fallow cane land in the region, on a lease basis for tomato production so we work closely with the sugar industry. We currently use 2,400 megalitres of irrigation water annually and know that this water has come about due to policies and commitments made 40 years ago.

Unfortunately, there are a few within the scheme that are now challenging the long established principles. SP Exports does not support this approach or the organisation 'Bundaberg Regional Irrigator Group'.

To us there are other much important matters to be debated during this process and QCA should not be wasting time investigating nodal pricing.

Yours faithfully

Andrew Philip
MANAGING DIRECTOR

c.c. Anna Bligh MP, Premier; Andrew Fraser MP, Treasurer; and Stephen Robertson MP, Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy

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