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29<sup>th</sup> November 2007

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Pigmeat Safeguards Inquiry  
Productivity Commission  
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To whom it may concern:

**Submission to the Productivity Commission: Safeguards Inquiry into the Import of Pigmeat**

This is a submission from Karen Flight of Tarree Pastoral to the Productivity Commission's Safeguards Inquiry into the Import of Pigmeat.

In this submission, I wish to address the following matters:

- Imports are injuring the Australian pig industry and as such, appropriate provisional safeguards should be implemented to stabilise the industry;
- An implementation of provisional safeguards and general safeguards would not:
  - a. be a disincentive for the industry or for our company to adjust; or
  - b. inhibit the international competitiveness of our industry; or
  - c. impact negatively on consumers in terms of price increases; or
  - d. slow our farming enterprise or industry restructure.

Our business name is Tarree Pastoral. We are a farrow to finish intensive pig producer. We have been involved with the Pig Industry for 45 years. Our operation is based in Loxton, South Australia. We also are a family run Dryland cereal cropping enterprise who aims to value add grain grown through Pig production.

We currently run 540 sows with growing stock of 4700 pigs. Usual numbers sold per week are 220 Light Bacon pigs and we are maintaining this currently. Our farm business employs 6 family members in full-time permanent positions. We also employ 8 men who live in our local town of Loxton, 6 of which are employed solely for our Piggery operation on a permanent full-time basis.

Our business has made a capital investment of well over \$1,000,000 in building our piggery enterprise and this provides us with an annual Cashflow turnover of around \$2,000,000 per year. The current price we are being paid for our pigs incorporated with high production costs means that at the moment we are running our business at a significant and unsustainable loss.

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Imports are depressing our pig prices and impeding our ability to recover our costs of production. It is imports which are causing serious injury to our business and without immediate provisional safeguard action, we are faced with long term irreparable damage to the future of our business, our local rural community and in turn to the Australian pork industry.

Yours sincerely,

Karen Flight  
Director

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