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DR. GERALDINE GENTLE  
COST RECOVERY INQUIRY  
PRODUCTIVITY COMMISSION  
LOCKED BAG 2  
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MELBOURNE VICTORIA 8003



Dear Dr. Gentle

I thank you for the opportunity to make a submission concerning cost recovery arrangements as described within your circular, 30/8/2000.

In the interests of being brief, and knowing the current economically driven financial obsession s of all levels of Government, there is little point in me being lengthy.

As a fourth generation primary producer, I am well aware of the necessity for "cost recovery".

However, as a public figure I have increasingly become aware of the fact that Government at all levels has two responsibilities: Certainly Government has a financial responsibility [thus your enquiry] but it equally has a **SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY.**

The results of the obsession with cost recovery, economic rationalism, current account deficits, et al., can be seen in our disgruntled youth... High drug use, depression and suicides. Collapsing farms and manufacturing sectors are another symptom. The pressures evident within the health sector are another.

In summary, Government at all levels needs to think through the long term effect of economic rationalism. There is more to life than matters financial. Government has a responsibility to look after **people**. This service provision will never be met with a concentration on economic rationalism.

Yours Sincerely

PETER DAVIS 13/9/2000.