



18 July 2013

Processed Tomato Products Safeguards Inquiry

Productivity Commission
Level 12, 530 Collins Street
Melbourne
VIC 3000

Dear Madam/Sir,

I am writing to you in support joint Kagome/APTRC/APTG/Billabong Produce submission to the current Safeguard Inquiry.

The APTRC understand there are two significant revenue streams generated by the tomato processing sector; tomato paste, an internationally traded commodity product and tomato whole peel and diced products, which is the value added component of their operation. Following the recent decline in food processing in Australia and subsequent closure of food processing factories, all processing tomato growers in Australia have been affected.

Although we believe and can demonstrate we are operating at world's best practice, and industry representatives from both California and Canada have made comments along the same lines about the Australian Industry, the current loss of markets that we have recently experienced affects the viability of all our faming businesses and on-farm processing businesses. The knock on effects will be considerable, both within the family operations, but also the local communities.

Yours sincerely

Liz Mann
Industry Development Manager
Australian Processing Tomato Research Council Inc.