

s 47G(1)(a), s 47F(1), s 47E(d), s 22(1)(a)(ii)



PO Box 6322, Kingston ACT, 2604

17 March 2026

Hon Julie Collins MP
Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
House of Representatives
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Email: Minister.Collins@aff.gov.au

Dear Minister Collins

Impact of Middle East conflict on domestic agricultural supply chains

Fertilizer Australia is writing to urgently inform you of acute disruptions to the global fertiliser supply chain that threaten Australia's agriculture sector and domestic food security, as well as proposed actions the Commonwealth Government can take to mitigate these risks.

Nitrogen is fundamental to Australian agricultural productivity, and any sustained disruption to supply has direct implications for food production, farm input costs and broader food security. The supply of nitrogen based-products is already being disrupted and risks to supply will escalate as a result of the ongoing conflict in the Middle East.

The Middle East is a critical source of fertiliser for Australia, accounting for approximately 60 per cent of Australia's urea imports and around 40 per cent of global urea supply. The conflict has delayed several fertiliser shipments destined for Australia in the Persian Gulf as they await safe passage through the Strait of Hormuz. Other shipments have been cancelled altogether and there are ships that are unable to enter the Middle East region to load product.

Australian fertiliser importers are actively seeking to mitigate these disruptions by substituting urea with alternative nitrogen products where possible. However, the window to avoid serious adverse outcomes for Australian agriculture is rapidly narrowing.

Industry assessments suggest that if normal shipping access through the Persian Gulf can be restored within the next two weeks, the likely outcome for Australian farmers would be elevated fertiliser prices but a broadly manageable supply position. Beyond this timeframe, risks compound quickly, with the potential for severe supply shortages that could have catastrophic impacts on domestic agricultural output in the 2026 season.

Disruptions to shipping in through the Middle East are being exacerbated by broader geopolitical responses to the conflict, as countries move to protect domestic food security. For example, China has reportedly extended its curtailment of exports for fertilisers such as urea ammonium nitrate (UAN) and single superphosphate (SSP). There are also reports of India pursuing government to government arrangements with China to secure urea supplies. Such actions further tighten already constrained global markets.

Fertilizer Australia has briefed the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry on these developments and has participated in the Minister for Climate Change and Energy's recent fuel security roundtable discussions.

Due the scale and urgency of the risks, we believe there is a strong case for continued and coordinated government engagement to support supply chain resilience and safeguard Australia's agricultural production. We recommend that the Commonwealth Government consider the following short term, targeted policy responses to help stabilise supply and mitigate impacts on Australian agriculture.

1. Continue to actively advocate, through diplomatic and international channels, for an outcome that restores safe and reliable shipping access through the Strait of Hormuz as soon as possible. Given the central role this transit route plays in global fertiliser supply, even a short period of disruption has disproportionate impacts on worldwide markets for agricultural inputs. Strong and coordinated engagement with international partners will be critical to reducing supply uncertainty.
2. Temporarily ease restrictions that prevent fertiliser trade with Russia, including clarifying and streamlining pathways for Australian and international banks to support legitimate fertiliser transactions. It is noteworthy that fertilisers are not subject to sanctions in the United States, the European Union or the United Kingdom, although some jurisdictions apply tariffs. A temporary and narrowly targeted approach focused solely on fertiliser supply would help diversify sourcing options at a time of acute global constraint.
3. Temporarily ease security related rules governing ammonium nitrate (AN) concentrations for on farm use in order to increase availability of domestically produced nitrogen products. Australia's current limit of 45 per cent AN concentration is materially lower than settings in parts of Europe, where blends between 70 and 90 per cent are permitted depending on product type. Carefully managed, time limited changes could materially increase the effective supply of nitrogen available to farmers without compromising safety outcomes.
4. Engage bilaterally with China to secure the honouring of existing fertiliser export contracts to Australia. Australia plays a significant role in global food production and contributes to food security for key trading partners, including China. Framing this issue in terms of shared food security interests may help support continued supply flows during a period of heightened geopolitical tension.
5. Appoint a dedicated taskforce function to work directly with fertiliser producers, importers and major agricultural users. A single, empowered point of contact within government would assist industry to navigate regulatory, trade, financing and logistical issues quickly and coherently, and would improve information sharing as conditions evolve.

Given the speed at which these risks are evolving and the potential consequences for Australian agriculture, we respectfully seek your consideration of the issues and policy options outlined above.

Given our commitment to collaboration, Fertilizer Australia acts as a vital intermediary between the government and the industry, representing approximately 90-95% of fertiliser importers. In light of the current landscape, we respectfully invite your consideration of the significant issues at hand.

Our board will convene on Thursday, 19 March, where we anticipate gaining clarity on our next steps. We welcome the opportunity to meet with you or your officials at your convenience to provide further insights into industry conditions and discuss how government and industry can work together to safeguard fertiliser supply and agricultural production during this period of heightened uncertainty.

Thank you for your consideration to this matter.

Sincerely,



Stephen Annells
CEO, Fertilizer Australia

Email: **s 47F(1)**
Phone: 02) 6273 2422
Mobile: **s 47F(1)**

CC: The Hon Anthony Albanese MP
Prime Minister of Australia

Senator the Hon Tim Ayres
Minister for Industry and Innovation

Hon Dr Jim Chalmers MP
Treasurer of Australia

Senator the Hon Don Farrell
Minister for Trade and Tourism of Australia

Senator the Hon Penny Wong
Minister for Foreign Affairs

The Hon Catherine King
Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government

Mr Scott Bowman
Chair of Fertilizer Australia.



Julie Collins MP

Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Ref: MC26-000758

Mr Stephen Annells
Chief Executive Officer
Fertilizer Australia
PO Box 6322
KINGSTON ACT 2604

s 47F(1)

Stephen
Dear Mr Annells

Thank you for your letter dated 17 March 2026, concerning the impact of the Middle East conflict on Australian fertiliser supply. The Albanese Labor Government recognises the critical importance of fertilisers to Australia's agricultural production and broader food security.

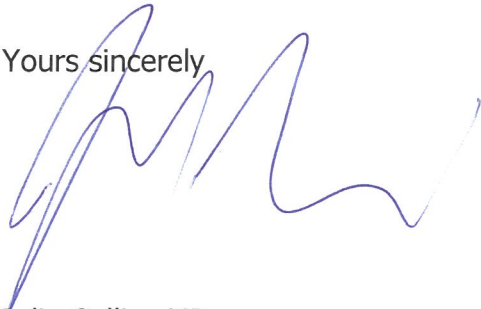
As you are aware, the Australian Government is working to alleviate fuel and fertiliser supply challenges caused by the situation in the Middle East. We greatly appreciate your continued engagement, including your participation in weekly industry roundtables, and your advocacy for, and involvement in, the Fertiliser Supply Working Group, is greatly appreciated. The advice and insights you have provided to date have been highly valuable.

Forums such as these ensures that our Government hears directly from industry about emerging challenges and constraints, and support the development of targeted, proportionate policy responses to assist fertiliser companies and farmers during this period of significant trade disruption.

Timely, high-quality information remains critical to this work. To this end I ask that you continue to encourage your members to share relevant information with the department, including indicative demand, cargoes on-water, orders that cannot be fulfilled, expected short falls in supply, the time-criticality of those requirements, and any other information that would help clarify material supply gaps and constraints facing your members. This information can be provided to sarah.burr@aff.gov.au at the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

I look forward to continuing this relationship as we work through fertiliser supply responses. Once again, thank you for your ongoing engagement on this critical issue.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Julie Collins', written over the words 'Yours sincerely'.

Julie Collins MP

19 / 5 / 2026

cc: The Hon Anthony Albanese MP
Prime Minister of Australia

Senator the Hon Tim Ayres
Minister for Industry and Innovation

The Hon Dr Jim Chalmers MP
Treasurer

Senator the Hon Don Farrell
Minister for Trade and Tourism

Senator the Hon Penny Wong
Minister for Foreign Affairs

The Hon Catherine King MP
Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local
Government

From: [Stephen Annells](#)
To: [s 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#)
Subject: FW: Policy Position - Underwriting/Risk sharing of Cargoes
Date: Tuesday, 24 March 2026 10:24:57 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Hi [s 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#)

In the message below.

Can you please just use internally?

As suggested, I'll try and build an approximate quantum.

Regards

Stephen Annells

CEO, Fertilizer Australia

Phone (02) 6273 2422

Mobile [s 47F\(1\)](#)

www.fertilizer.org.au



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From: Stephen Annells
Sent: Monday, 23 March 2026 7:57 PM
To: [s 47F\(1\)](#)
Subject: Policy Position - Underwriting/Risk sharing of Cargoes

Hi [s 47F\(1\)](#),

Are you able to shape some words around this?

Policy Position

As with all supply and demand situations, when there are supply concerns driving up prices, prices can get to the stage where demand dwindles and supply meets demand.

This is will, in effect, curtail the volumes of fertiliser, particularly urea, below the level required to maximise/optimize agricultural output.

There is a further effect of this.

Fertiliser importers purchase based on contracts and on anticipated demand.

Fertiliser importers contract and purchase 40-50,000tonnes with shipments of urea costing \$32M before the crisis and \$52M now.

There are two risks they face:

1. Growers not purchasing at the higher price (growers are requested to contract, however they often hold off awaiting a price drop); and
2. An importer purchasing at \$1300/tonne, the crisis ending and prices dropping to \$800/tonne as shipping lanes open and production recommences (noting it is a supply issue, not a demand issue as was experienced during covid).

Both of these might deter an importer from purchasing a cargo, should one become available.

Fertiliser will move to the highest bidder and traditionally this has been Western Europe then Australia. However, this has its limits.

Growers will make decisions based on the cost of inputs versus the revenue from outputs. Grain prices will rise, however, this might be offset to next season.

Fertilizer Australia is asking the government to share the risk on each cargo and underwrite a minimum return per tonne.

This will also provide a lower price for growers and assure supply.

Australia is one of the few jurisdictions that offers virtually no subsidies to growers.

The flow on effects of a lost season will last several years.

Regards

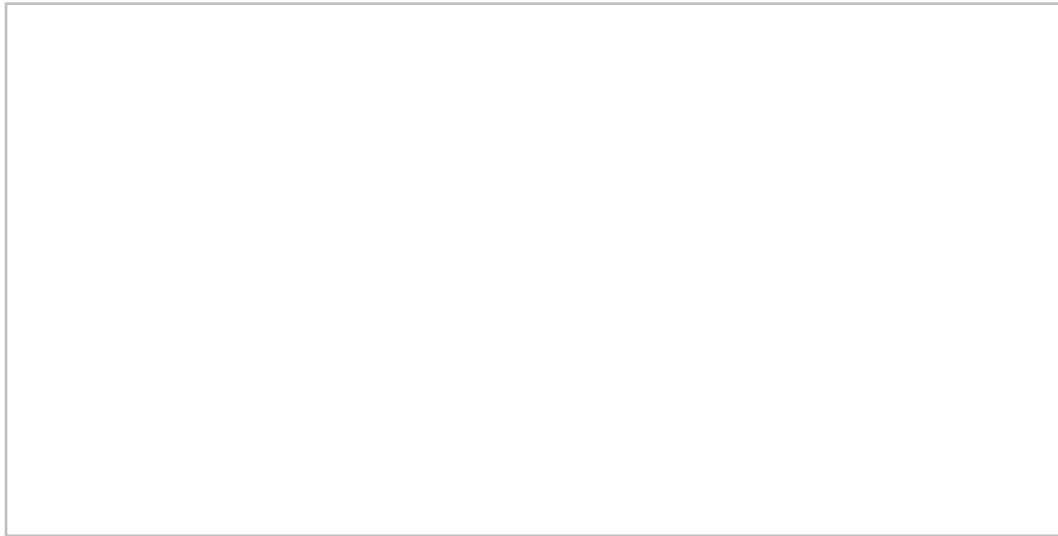
Stephen Annells

CEO, Fertilizer Australia

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Mobile **s 47F(1)**

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From: [Stephen Annells](#)
To: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Cc: s 47F(1)
Subject: Draft Polic Position
Date: Friday, 27 March 2026 11:45:04 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[Draft Policy Position 26-03-2026 Risk Sharing of Cargos.pdf](#)

Hi s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Draft Policy Position as discussed.

The mechanism will need to be worked out if the government has an appetite for this.

Regards

Stephen Annells

CEO, Fertilizer Australia

Phone (02) 6273 2422

Mobile s 47F(1)

www.fertilizer.org.au



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DRAFT POLICY PROPOSAL

Time-Limited Fertiliser Risk-Sharing Mechanism to Protect Australia's Food Security

Policy Purpose

To safeguard Australia's food security and agricultural productivity during this period of acute global supply chain disruption by temporarily sharing fertiliser price risk between government, fertiliser importers, ag retailers and farmers.

This intervention in the top end of the supply chain will be part of reducing inflationary pressure of higher input costs flowing through to the retail price of supermarket food for Australian consumers.

Why This Matters for Food Security

Fertiliser is a strategic input to Australia's food and fibre system. Sharp, unpredictable increases in fertiliser prices driven by the War in Iran pose a direct risk to:

- national agricultural output
- farm viability and planting decisions
- Australia's capacity to remain a reliable food producer and exporter

Without intervention, extreme price volatility will reduce fertiliser use below agronomic requirements, leading to lower yields and productivity losses that can persist for several seasons.

The Market Failure creating unacceptable risk

The current disruption is a temporary global supply shock, not a demand driven price cycle.

- Fertiliser importers must commit to high value cargoes (40–50 kt, \$50+ million per shipment) months in advance, with no certainty that prices will remain elevated when cargoes land.
- If the conflict abates and supply normalises, importers and retailers risk being stranded with high priced inventory that cannot be recovered in the domestic market.
- Ag retailers are constrained in their ability to secure and distribute supply.
- Farmers, facing unsustainable input costs, rationally reduce fertiliser application or choose not to plant at all—impacting yields and national output.

These risks discourage importers from purchasing cargoes at precisely the time Australia most needs supply certainty.

Proposed Policy Response

Establish a time limited Federal Government fertiliser risk sharing mechanism to ensure continued imports and stable domestic supply during the disruption period.

Suggested Key Features

- **Cargo Level Risk Underwriting**
Government underwrites a minimum return per tonne for eligible fertiliser cargoes imported during the disruption window.
- **Price Stability for Farmers**
By absorbing a share of downside price risk, the mechanism allows fertiliser to be supplied at lower, more sustainable prices than would occur without intervention.
- **Supply Assurance**
Encourages importers to continue contracting cargoes despite long shipping lead times and heightened volatility, keeping Australia competitive in global supply markets. It also allows Australian importers to seriously consider alternative markets like Algeria and Nigeria that are not as tested in quality, are longer sail times and can be more difficult to secure vessels.
- **Strictly Temporary and Targeted**
Applies only to defined products and volumes critical to national production and automatically unwinds as global supply conditions normalise.

Why Government Intervention Is Appropriate

- Australia provides minimal direct agricultural subsidies compared to peer nations, leaving our food system more exposed to global shocks.
- A loss of fertiliser application in one season has multi-year consequences for yields, soil condition and export competitiveness.
- This mechanism does not distort demand—it addresses a short-term supply failure to preserve normal market function.
- Protecting fertiliser access is a low-cost intervention compared to the economic and food security impacts of a lost production season or seasons.

Expected Outcomes

- Continued fertiliser imports during periods of global instability
- Lower and more predictable fertiliser prices for farmers
- Maintained agricultural output and avoided multi-year productivity losses
- Strengthened national food security and supply chain resilience

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FORESTRY

MB26-000114

To: Minister Collins**MEETING WITH, STEPHEN ANNELLS, CEO, AND SCOTT BOWMAN, CHAIR,
FERTILIZER AUSTRALIA****Timing:** Monday, 30 March 2026 3:30-4:00 PM**Location:** Minister's Office, APH**Meeting with:** Stephen Annelles, CEO and Scott Bowman, Chair, Fertilizer Australia**What we want:** to gain further information on suggested policy responses to current supply issues associated with the Middle East conflict, and set expectations on their viability.**What they want:** to provide perspectives on proposed policy solutions to fertiliser supply challenges.**Issues and Sensitivities:**

1. Fertilizer Australia wrote to you on 17 March 2026, outlining their perspective on the Middle East conflict and proposed policy responses (see incoming correspondence at **Attachment B**, and draft response at **Attachment C**).
 - a. **s 22(1)(a)(ii)**
 - b. Since this correspondence, Fertilizer Australia has also requested the government underwrite shipments of imported fertilisers to address the commercial risks associated with prices easing while in transit. The department is working with DFAT to understand our World Trade Organisation obligations in respect to this request.
2. Fertilizer Australia is concerned that producers are underestimating the risk of being unable to acquire fertiliser on the spot market in the coming months and are not committing to forward contracts.
 - a. This is discouraging fertiliser importers from committing to bulk purchases at current prices.
 - b. Forward contracts would provide fertiliser importers some surety in ordering.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Clearing Officer:	Joanna Stanion	First Assistant Secretary, Agricultural Policy Division	Mob: s 47F(1)
Contact Officer:	Sarah Burr	Assistant Secretary, Partnerships and Productivity Branch	Mob: s 47F(1)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Attachments

- A:** Talking Points
- B:** MC26-000758 – Incoming correspondence from Stephen Annells
- C:** MC26-000758 – Draft response

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FORESTRY

MB26-000114

Attachment A**TALKING POINTS**

- Thank you for your extensive, and ongoing engagement with the department and my office.
 - Both the government and broader industry appreciate the regular and frank updates on your views and supply intelligence.
- Key decisions are approaching for cropping industries on what to plant, or even if to plant.
 - My department has been sharing your messaging for farmers to engage early with suppliers and signal forward demand for fertiliser where possible, to provide the certainty for importers to lock in shipments.
- Government is engaging extensively to investigate alternative sources of fertiliser and advocate that existing contracts are honoured.
- **s 22(1)(a)(ii)**

- I am also keen to hear any thoughts you have on objectives to focus the efforts of a fertiliser working group, to be convened with government and industry members.
- A formal response to your 17 March letter will follow this meeting.



17 March 2026

Hon Julie Collins MP
Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
House of Representatives
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Email: Minister.Collins@aff.gov.au

Dear Minister Collins

Impact of Middle East conflict on domestic agricultural supply chains

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The Middle East is a critical source of fertiliser for Australia, accounting for approximately 60 per cent of Australia's urea imports and around 40 per cent of global urea supply. The conflict has delayed several fertiliser shipments destined for Australia in the Persian Gulf as they await safe passage through the Strait of Hormuz. Other shipments have been cancelled altogether and there are ships that are unable to enter the Middle East region to load product.

Australian fertiliser importers are actively seeking to mitigate these disruptions by substituting urea with alternative nitrogen products where possible. However, the window to avoid serious adverse outcomes for Australian agriculture is rapidly narrowing.

Industry assessments suggest that if normal shipping access through the Persian Gulf can be restored within the next two weeks, the likely outcome for Australian farmers would be elevated fertiliser prices but a broadly manageable supply position. Beyond this timeframe, risks compound quickly, with the potential for severe supply shortages that could have catastrophic impacts on domestic agricultural output in the 2026 season.

Disruptions to shipping in through the Middle East are being exacerbated by broader geopolitical responses to the conflict, as countries move to protect domestic food security. For example, China has reportedly extended its curtailment of exports for fertilisers such as urea ammonium nitrate (UAN) and single superphosphate (SSP). There are also reports of India pursuing government to government arrangements with China to secure urea supplies. Such actions further tighten already constrained global markets.

Fertilizer Australia has briefed the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry on these developments and has participated in the Minister for Climate Change and Energy's recent fuel security roundtable discussions.

Due the scale and urgency of the risks, we believe there is a strong case for continued and coordinated government engagement to support supply chain resilience and safeguard Australia's agricultural production. We recommend that the Commonwealth Government consider the following short term, targeted policy responses to help stabilise supply and mitigate impacts on Australian agriculture.

1. Continue to actively advocate, through diplomatic and international channels, for an outcome that restores safe and reliable shipping access through the Strait of Hormuz as soon as possible. Given the central role this transit route plays in global fertiliser supply, even a short period of disruption has disproportionate impacts on worldwide markets for agricultural inputs. Strong and coordinated engagement with international partners will be critical to reducing supply uncertainty.
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5. Appoint a dedicated taskforce function to work directly with fertiliser producers, importers and major agricultural users. A single, empowered point of contact within government would assist industry to navigate regulatory, trade, financing and logistical issues quickly and coherently, and would improve information sharing as conditions evolve.

Given the speed at which these risks are evolving and the potential consequences for Australian agriculture, we respectfully seek your consideration of the issues and policy options outlined above.

Given our commitment to collaboration, Fertilizer Australia acts as a vital intermediary between the government and the industry, representing approximately 90-95% of fertiliser importers. In light of the current landscape, we respectfully invite your consideration of the significant issues at hand.

Our board will convene on Thursday, 19 March, where we anticipate gaining clarity on our next steps. We welcome the opportunity to meet with you or your officials at your convenience to provide further insights into industry conditions and discuss how government and industry can work together to safeguard fertiliser supply and agricultural production during this period of heightened uncertainty.

Thank you for your consideration to this matter.

Sincerely,



Stephen Annells
CEO, Fertilizer Australia

Email: **s 47F(1)**
Phone: 02) 6273 2422
Mobile: **s 47F(1)**

CC: The Hon Anthony Albanese MP
Prime Minister of Australia

Senator the Hon Tim Ayres
Minister for Industry and Innovation

Hon Dr Jim Chalmers MP
Treasurer of Australia

Senator the Hon Don Farrell
Minister for Trade and Tourism of Australia

Senator the Hon Penny Wong
Minister for Foreign Affairs

The Hon Catherine King
Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government

Mr Scott Bowman
Chair of Fertilizer Australia.

s 47C(1), s 47F(1)

S 47C(1)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Subject: Meeting with Stephen Annells, CEO, Fertilizer Australia
Location: M1.49

Start: Mon 30/03/2026 3:30 PM
End: Mon 30/03/2026 4:00 PM

Recurrence: (none)

Meeting Status: Meeting organizer

Organizer: Collins. Julie (MP)
Required Attendees s 22(1)(a)(ii)
 s 47E(d)

From: Stephen Annells s 47F(1)
Sent: Tuesday, 24 March 2026 4:49 PM
To: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Subject: Meeting with Minister Collins,

Hi s 22(1)(a) and s 22(1)(a)

Scott Bowman (Chair FA, President IPL) and I would like to meet with the Minister, in Canberra next week.

We are keen to discuss the letter dated 17-03-26 (emailed Tuesday last week) and further advancements.

Could you please check and see if there is a suitable date. I'll need to coordinate with Scott too.

Regards

Stephen Annells
 CEO, Fertilizer Australia
 Phone (02) 6273 2422
 Mobile s 47F(1)
www.fertilizer.org.au



Promoting the sustainable and responsible use of fertiliser to protect Australia's social license to use fertilisers.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: Stephen Annells **s 47F(1)**
Sent: Monday, 4 May 2026 6:05 PM
To: Minister Collins
Cc: **s 22(1)(a)(ii)**
Subject: Underwriting Mechanism

Some people who received this message don't often get email from **s 47F(1)**. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Minister,

In light of the excellent work done your office, DAFF and the wider government, I write to alert you to some issues that are fomenting behind the scenes, within the fertiliser industry.

As discussed with **s 22(1)(a)(ii)** and **s 22(1)(a)(ii)** last week, I feel these issues are easily resolved and can be avoided.

Following the announcement of the arrangements between Export Finance Australia (**EFA**) and CSBP and Incitec Pivot (**IPF**), the rest of the industry is finding it very difficult to reach the same position with EFA, in a timely manner.

The arrangements with CSBP and IPF have the ability to artificially distort pricing within the fertiliser market. This could create a disparity between those that are protected by underwriting (against drops in fertiliser price) and those that do not have that protection.

As a result, there are bulk importing companies that are reconsidering or delaying cargoes to Australia. They will not take on the risk, as the cargos they purchase might face losses due to a drop in the domestic prices, once in Australia, without underwriting protection.

These bulk importing companies have the potential to, collectively, bring as much as CSBP and IPL combined, if not more.

As such, the underwriting initiative might have a counter effect, resulting in only IPL and CSBP bringing in cargos. This is an extreme distortion of the market and could result in a lack of competition on both the east and west coast, as well as an undersupply of fertiliser.

Additionally, fertiliser is needed at particular times and the period of purchasing and importing urea, is right now.

When I spoke to **s 22(1)(a)** and **s 22(1)(a)** last week, I made three (3) requests:

1. greater communication to the industry regarding the EFA's initiative (which will be addressed on Wednesday, thank you);
2. suitable resourcing of the EFA to ensure all importers are being dealt in "private sector" timeliness; and
3. an equal playing field for all bulk importers.

I appreciate the second two requests are more difficult but they need to happen quickly as the narrow window for purchasing cargos is right now (exacerbated by India currently mopping up available global urea supply in the first of two (2) predicted tenders).

The underwriting initiative is not being criticised, neither is EFA or the government. The industry's only concern in the execution and timeliness.

As always, I am happy to discuss further and try and find solutions.

Regards

Stephen Annells
CEO, Fertilizer Australia
Phone (02) 6273 2422



Promoting the sustainable and responsible use of fertiliser to protect Australia's social license to use fertilisers.

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SECURING MORE FERTILISER FOR AUSTRALIAN FARMERS

The Albanese Labor Government continues to secure essential fuel and fertiliser to keep Australian agriculture moving, **with around 80,250 tonnes of additional urea** now locked in through the Government's \$7.5 billion Fuel and Fertiliser Security Facility.

Through Export Finance Australia, the Government has partnered with Incitec Pivot to support the purchase of two shipments of urea from Indonesia.

One of these shipments is part of the 250,000 tonnes of agricultural grade urea locked in through PT Pupuk, secured by the Albanese Labor Government and Incitec Pivot.

Six shipments, and over 209,000 tonnes of urea have now been secured through the Government's Fuel and Fertiliser Security Facility, with the first of these shipments expected to arrive in Australia in the coming weeks.

Securing more fertiliser is part of the Albanese Labor Government's actions to help Australia's agriculture industry manage the impacts of the conflict in the Middle East.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

How will additional shipment be allocated to producers?

This supply will be distributed to Australian farmers through established domestic channels, and will be led by industry through their usual processes.

What is the cost of additional shipments? Will this mean farmers get cheaper fertiliser?

Obviously, these agreements are commercial in confidence.

But what we know is that the supply of fertiliser to our farmers is critical.

Supply enables our farmers to make the decisions they need based on their own circumstances.

And the agreements we've secured through EFA will give further certainty to farmers.

What are you doing to get more fertiliser?

The Albanese Labor Government has acted fast to secure urea supplies for Australian farmers across several fronts.

Close collaboration with industry is a key pillar of this response.

We have:

- Amended the Export Finance and Insurance Corporation Act to allow government to underwrite fertiliser cargoes through the \$7.5 billion Fuel and Fertiliser Security Facility, to provide supply certainty where markets are under pressure
- Established the Fertiliser Supply Working Group.
- Streamlined, but not compromised, biosecurity clearances for fertiliser shipments, to ensure fertiliser moves from port to farm as efficiently as possible.

What does underwriting arrangement involve for fertiliser shipments?

The Government has been working with industry to agree arrangements for underwriting of fertiliser shipments by Export Finance Australia in line with the approach taken for fuel suppliers to address supply disruptions in the near-term.

This support mechanism is not a subsidy or grant – it:

- Provides price-risk support to protect importers from extreme price volatility, and
- Supports Australian importers to be first in line to secure international urea cargoes as they become available.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Is the ACCC taking any action? What are they doing?

We're engaging with the ACCC, as is the fertiliser industry, including through the Fertiliser Working Group, to support suppliers comply with competition and consumer law.

I would encourage our farmers and producers to report any instances of bad business behaviour, because this is something that the ACCC takes seriously.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Key actions to secure **fertiliser**:

- Passed laws to underwrite the purchase of new fertiliser from international markets by the private sector – with a framework initially being agreed with two leading fertiliser companies, Incitec Pivot and CSBC
- This has supported the purchase of four shipments, and around 125,000 tonnes of fertiliser.
- Helping to secure 250,000 tonnes of additional agricultural grade urea for Australian farmers from Indonesia
- Joint leaders' statement with Brunei Darussalam committing to cooperation on food security and resilient supply chains for food production
- Establishing a Fertiliser Supply Working Group between Government and industry, including Fertilizer Australia and the National Farmers' Federation
- Streamlined biosecurity border processes for imported fertiliser

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii) (via LaborMedia list) <LaborMedia@media.australianlabor.org.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 9 June 2026 8:41 AM
Subject: JOINT MEDIA RELEASE - FARRELL, BOWEN, COLLINS & AYRES - ADDITIONAL FERTILISER AND FUEL SUPPLIES SECURED [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

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Senator the Hon Don Farrell
Minister for Trade and Tourism
Special Minister of State

The Hon Chris Bowen MP
Minister for Climate Change and Energy

The Hon Julie Collins MP
Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Senator the Hon Tim Ayres
Minister for Industry and Innovation
Minister for Science

ADDITIONAL FERTILISER AND FUEL SUPPLIES SECURED

The Albanese Labor Government continues to secure more essential fuel and fertiliser to keep Australia moving, with the announcement today of approximately 31,000 tonnes of additional urea and approximately 50 million litres of additional diesel secured through the Government's \$7.5 billion Fuel and Fertiliser Security Facility.

The Government has partnered with Summit Fertilizers to support the purchase of this new shipment of urea, and with BP Australia for this additional cargo of diesel, which is destined for Perth.

This additional shipment of fertiliser will provide more certainty for our farmers as they make planting and growing decisions for the current and upcoming seasons.

This fertiliser shipment is in addition to shipments already secured in partnership with Incitec Pivot and CSBP, and brings the total fertiliser supported under the Fuel and Fertiliser Security Facility to around 240,000 tonnes of urea.

The Government continues to progress discussions with other suppliers to secure more shipments to help maintain a reliable supply of fertiliser and strengthen our food security.

The new fuel shipment brings the total amount of additional fuel secured through the Government's new Fuel and Fertiliser Security Facility to approximately 740 million litres of diesel and approximately 150 million litres of jet fuel across 18 additional shipments.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Trade and Tourism, Don Farrell:

"Today's announcement shows the value of engaging with our region and investing in our relationships at both a government and business level."

"The Albanese Labor Government remains committed to backing Australian farmers and the jobs and communities they sustain nationwide."

"We are taking practical steps to secure essential supplies to keep Australia moving."

Quotes attributable to Minister for Climate Change and Energy, Chris Bowen:

"Our government knows that despite the positive results we have had building up our fuel buffer, this is no time to stand still, which is why we continue to secure additional shipments in partnership with industry."

"We've now got 740 million litres of diesel arriving which would not otherwise be on its way, because of the action the Government took early, and you can expect that figure to keep growing."

Quotes attributable to Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Julie Collins:

"Our Government continues to work around the clock to help shield our farmers from the worst impacts of the war in the Middle East."

"The additional fertiliser we have secured through our \$7.5 billion Fuel and Fertiliser Security Facility will mean Australia's farmers can keep farming."

"The confidence and certainty this additional fertiliser provides is critical, helping safeguard Australia's food security."

Quotes attributable to Minister for Industry and Innovation, Tim Ayres:

"The crisis in the Middle East is continuing to put pressure on Australian households, businesses and farmers - that's why the Albanese Labor Government is so focused on getting more of the fertiliser we need."

"This new shipment of urea is welcome news - and we will continue working with our partners and industry to look after Australia's interests."

MEDIA CONTACTS

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OFFICIAL

FERTILISER

The Albanese Labor Government has secured another three shipments of **approximately 98,500 tonnes of additional urea** for Australian farmers through the Government's \$7.5 billion Fuel and Fertiliser Security Facility.

The Albanese Government has partnered with Incitec Pivot, CSBP, and Summit Fertilizer to support the purchase of these additional fertiliser shipments, which are expected to arrive in Australia in the coming weeks.

In partnership with these companies, **the Government has now secured approximately 340,000 tonnes of additional urea for Australian farmers.**

Securing this additional fertiliser gives our farmers the certainty and confidence they need to make planting and growing decisions, supporting food security in Australia and our world-class agricultural exports.

Around 1.4 million tonnes of urea have been cleared through Australia's biosecurity system since the escalation of the war in the Middle East in February 2026, with streamlined border processes introduced by the Government helping to get fertiliser to our farmers faster.

Why is this needed with deal now secured? Will EFA continue with these deals?

Australia welcomes the agreement between the United States and Iran, including steps toward reopening the Strait of Hormuz and restoring freedom of navigation.

The task of securing fertiliser supply is ongoing, with significant market disruption persisting. Around 62% of our urea imports previously coming through the Strait of Hormuz.

The Fuel and Fertiliser Security Facility is a targeted response to these conditions, and while we do not intend for it to operate longer than necessary, it will remain in place while work continues to secure reliable supply for Australian farmers and support agricultural productivity and food security.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

What does underwriting arrangement involve for fertiliser shipments?

The Government has been working with industry to agree arrangements for underwriting of fertiliser shipments by Export Finance Australia in line with the approach taken for fuel suppliers to address supply disruptions in the near-term.

This support mechanism is not a subsidy or grant – it:

- Provides price-risk support to protect importers from extreme price volatility, and
- Supports Australian importers to be first in line to secure international urea cargoes as they become available.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

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s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: Media Collins <Media.Collins@aff.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 16 June 2026 7:59 AM
Subject: JOINT MEDIA RELEASE - COLLINS, FARRELL & AYRES - SECURING MORE FERTILISER FOR AUSTRALIAN FARMERS - TUESDAY, 16 JUNE 2026



The Hon Julie Collins MP
Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
Member for Franklin

Senator the Hon Don Farrell
Minister for Trade and Tourism
Special Minister of State

Senator the Hon Tim Ayres
Minister for Industry and Innovation
Minister for Science

SECURING MORE FERTILISER FOR AUSTRALIAN FARMERS

The Albanese Labor Government has secured another three shipments of approximately 98,500 tonnes of additional urea for Australian farmers through the Government's \$7.5 billion Fuel and Fertiliser Security Facility.

The Albanese Government has partnered with Incitec Pivot, CSBP, and Summit Fertilizer to support the purchase of these additional fertiliser shipments, which are expected to arrive in Australia in the coming weeks.

In partnership with these companies, the Government has now secured around 340,000 tonnes of additional urea for Australian farmers.

Securing this additional fertiliser gives our farmers the certainty and confidence they need to make planting and growing decisions, supporting food security in Australia and our world-class agricultural exports.

Around 1.4 million tonnes of urea have been cleared through Australia's biosecurity system since the escalation of the war in the Middle East in February 2026, with streamlined border processes introduced by the Government helping to get fertiliser to our farmers faster.

The Government's Fuel and Fertiliser Security Facility has now secured:

- around 340,000 tonnes of agricultural grade urea
- around 740 million litres of additional diesel and
- around 150 million litres of additional aviation fuel

Quotes attributable to Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Julie Collins:

“Fertiliser is critical to our food security, which is why the Albanese Labor Government is working around the clock with industry to secure additional supply for our farmers and producers.

“Securing additional fertiliser and helping to get it to our farmers faster by streamlining, but not compromising, our biosecurity processes is about keeping our farmers farming and our food production strong.

“Our Government will continue doing everything we can to provide our farmers and producers with confidence, and to help shield them from the worst impacts of the war in the Middle East.”

Quotes attributable to Minister for Trade and Tourism, Don Farrell:

“In a volatile global environment, the Albanese Labor Government is focused on practical action, we’re backing Australian businesses and ensuring our exporters remain competitive and well supplied.

“Our strong relationships across the region have secured us the fuel and fertiliser we need to keep Australia moving.

“The Government remains committed to keeping up the momentum and continuing to protect Australians from the worst of this global challenge.”

Quotes attributable to Minister for Industry and Innovation and Minister for Science, Tim Ayres:

“As the conflict in the Middle East continues, it’s underscored one thing – in times of global uncertainty, Australians band together.

“I’m proud of the work that the Albanese Government has done in partnership with industry to secure these three additional shipments of fertiliser.

“That’s 98,500 tonnes of urea for the farmers that need it most – providing clarity for planning and planting.”

TUESDAY, 16 JUNE 2026

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: Media Collins
Sent: Monday, 22 June 2026 10:35 AM
Subject: MINISTERS COLLINS AND CHISHOLM - MEDIA RELEASE - FERTILISER ARRIVES FROM INDONESIA FOR AUSTRALIAN FARMERS - MONDAY, 22 JUNE 2026

**The Hon Julie Collins MP**

Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
Member for Franklin

Senator the Hon Anthony Chisholm

Assistant Minister for Resources
Assistant Minister for Regional Development
Assistant Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
Senator for Queensland

FERTILISER ARRIVES FROM INDONESIA FOR AUSTRALIAN FARMERS

The Albanese Labor Government is helping to keep Australia's farmers farming and our food production system strong, with the first shipment of urea locked in with industry and the Indonesian Government arriving in Australia today.

Docking in Brisbane, this shipment of 47,250 tonnes of urea is part of the 250,000 tonne supply deal between Incitec Pivot and PT Pupuk Indonesia, supported by the Australian and Indonesian Governments.

Helping to secure additional urea is part of the Albanese Labor Government's actions to support Australia's agriculture industry manage the impacts of the conflict in the Middle East.

This is giving farmers greater certainty as they make planting and management decisions, and is helping to keep Australia's food production strong.

Australia has no closer partner than Indonesia, and this supply of additional urea means we can continue to ensure both Australia and Indonesia's food security during times of global uncertainty.

Indonesia is Australia's 5th largest agricultural export market, with two-way trade valued at \$6.2 billion in 2025.

The gross value of Australia's agricultural production is forecast to reach more than \$98 billion in 2026–27, underscoring the importance of providing farmers with certainty.

Through the Albanese Labor Government's \$7.5 billion Fuel and Fertiliser Security Facility, the Government has secured around 340,000 tonnes of additional urea for Australian farmers.

Further shipments of urea secured by the Albanese Labor Government are expected to arrive in Australia the coming weeks.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Julie Collins:

“We’ve been taking action to keep Australia moving and our farmers farming, with this fertiliser arriving in Australia welcome news for our farmers and producers.

“I am very grateful for the cooperation and support of the Indonesian Government to lock in this additional fertiliser supply.

“Additional fertiliser secured by the Albanese Labor Government in partnership with industry is critical to keeping our food production strong, and is supporting food security in Australia and across the Indo-Pacific, including in Indonesia.

“We’ll continue working with Australia’s agriculture industry and our international trading partners to help secure the critical inputs our farmers and producers need, because we will always back them.”

Quotes attributable to Assistant Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Anthony Chisholm:

“The Albanese Labor Government has been focused on securing the essential supplies that Australian farmers and producers need to remain productive.

“Our farmers and producers are critical to every community in our regions and our big cities, which is why we’re ensuring they can continue to produce the products we all love and rely on.

“In addition to locking in more fertiliser, we’ve also secured nearly 800 million litres of diesel through our Fuel and Fertiliser Security Facility, helping to keep our farmers moving.”

Quotes attributable to Scott Bowman, Chief Operating Officer, Incitec Pivot Fertilisers:

“Incitec Pivot’s positive trading relationship with PT Pupuk Indonesia, supported by the collaboration between the Australian and Indonesian governments, is on display with the arrival of this first 47 kt on the MV Medi Luna, from Indonesia.

“This shipment is the first in a number of upcoming shipments from PT Pupuk, Indonesia, and is part of a suite of initiatives that Incitec pivot has been delivering to serve the needs of Australian farmers.

“Australian farm output is necessary for regional food security, and this is a crucial contribution to securing inputs via Australia’s largest fertiliser distributor, Incitec Pivot.

“Credit goes to the Australian and Indonesian governments in their active engagement in supporting fertiliser supply during what has been a period of significant global volatility.”

MONDAY, 22 JUNE 2026

MEDIA CONTACT: s 22(1)(a)(ii)

INDONESIA FERTILISER BOAT ARRIVAL:

The Albanese Labor Government has been taking action to keep Australia moving and to keep our farmers farming.

This includes working with industry and our international trading partners to help secure the critical inputs our farmers and producers need.

As part of this, the Albanese Labor Government worked with Incitec Pivot here in Australia and the Indonesian Government to help secure a supply arrangement of 250,000 tonnes of urea from Indonesia.

Today, I'm pleased to announce that the first shipment of this supply, over 47,000 tonnes, has docked here in Brisbane.

I'm pleased to welcome Indonesia's Minister of Agriculture, Andi Amran Sulaiman (**Phonetics**), and Vice Minister of Agriculture, Sudaryono (**Phonetics**), here to Australia to welcome this shipment.

During times of global uncertainty, Australia and Indonesia remain reliable partners.

Indonesia is one of Australia's closest neighbours and friends, and we are very grateful for the cooperation and support of the Indonesian Government to lock in this additional fertiliser supply.

This additional supply is critical to not only our domestic food security, but for supporting food security across the Indo-Pacific, including in Indonesia.

Australia plays a critical role in supporting food security in Indonesia, with Indonesia Australia's 5th largest agricultural export market, and two-way trade valued at \$5.5 billion in 2024-2025.

We recognise Australian farmers and producers have faced disruption from the war in the Middle East, which is impacting globally, which is why we've been working around the clock to shield them from the worst of these impacts.

Australia's agricultural production is forecast to reach more than \$98 billion in 2026–27, underscoring the importance of providing our farmers with support and with certainty.

Other Fertiliser Secured by the Albanese Government:

Through the Albanese Labor Government's \$7.5 billion Fuel and Fertiliser Security Facility, the Government has secured around 340,000 tonnes of additional urea for Australian farmers.

We've partnered with Incitec Pivot, CSBP, and Summit Fertilizer to support the purchase of this additional fertiliser, with further shipments expected to arrive in Australia in the coming weeks.

Around 1.4 million tonnes of urea have been cleared through Australia's biosecurity system since the escalation of the war in the Middle East in February 2026, with streamlined border processes introduced by the Government helping to get fertiliser to our farmers faster.

The amount of urea that has come into Australia for this growing season is similar to other seasons, because of the work that we've been able to do.

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s 22(1)(a)(ii)

What does underwriting arrangement involve for fertiliser shipments?

The Government has been working with industry to agree arrangements for underwriting of fertiliser shipments by Export Finance Australia in line with the approach taken for fuel suppliers to address supply disruptions in the near-term.

This support mechanism is not a subsidy or grant – it:

- Provides price-risk support to protect importers from extreme price volatility, and
- Supports Australian importers to be first in line to secure international urea cargoes as they become available.

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s 47G(1)(a), s 47F(1)

S 47G(1)(a)

s 47G(1)(a), s 47F(1), s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 47G(1)(a), s 47G(1)(b)

s 47G(1)(a), s 47G(1)(b)

s 47G(1)(a), s 47G(1)(b), s 47F(1)

CONFIDENTIAL

MIDDLE EAST SITUATION

KEY MESSAGE

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

We've announced we will underwrite the purchase of fuel and fertiliser by the private sector. This will give suppliers the confidence to secure additional supply and use it to service uncontracted demand, including for regional and independent fuel suppliers.

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MIDDLE EAST SITUATION

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MIDDLE EAST SITUATION

Fertiliser and Other Inputs (Urea)

We understand the importance of ensuring our farmers continue producing our food and fibre, and that keeping our freight and supply chains moving is critical.

Australia has lower levels of fertiliser use than other comparable countries, demonstrating an already efficient use of product and supply.

We have provided support through Export Finance Australia to Incitec Pivot, CSBP and Summit Fertilisers for ten cargoes that brought approximately 340,000 tonnes of additional agriculture-grade urea into Australia.

The Albanese Labor Government has worked with industry and the Indonesian Government to facilitate 250,000 tonnes of additional agricultural grade urea for Australian farmers from Indonesia.

The Government is working closely with key international partners and domestic industry to secure critical additional fertiliser supply.

Much of the input products for the upcoming planting season, including the majority of the fertiliser required, are in the country.

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MIDDLE EAST SITUATION

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Fertiliser – If asked

EFA agreement secured

- The Albanese Labor Government is working with leading fertiliser companies to secure fertiliser for Australian farmers.
- The reliable supply of fertiliser underpins farm productivity, food security for Australians and for our neighbours in the Indo-Pacific and Southeast Asia.
- Under the Albanese Government's new Strategic Reserve powers, we have partnered with CSBP [Wesfarmers], Incitec Pivot

MIDDLE EAST SITUATION

and Summit Fertilisers to quickly secure and deliver essential fertiliser into the Australian market.

- Under this framework, the Government will back these companies to lock in shipments from overseas and get supply into the country faster.
- EFA are engaging with the next tranche of fertiliser companies to seek similar arrangements.

How does the facility work?

- The Facility helps importers manage the risk of buying fertiliser in an uncertain market. It does this by sharing risk between government and importers.
- This means in simple terms: if prices fall, government shares some of the losses. If prices rise, government also shares in the gain.
- These are commercial arrangements – not a grant and not a subsidy.
- The Facility was never intended to set prices, which remain determined by the market.
- Eligible shipments are those that are genuinely additional to expected supply (i.e. not previously contracted), and that would not be secured without Government risk-sharing.
- It is a commercial decision for each company to participate in the Facility which may be influenced by a range of factors such as whether it is in their interests to enter into an arrangement, agree to risk sharing settings (including upside sharing), or in light of easing global urea prices.
- Participants must comply with any ACCC obligations, and standard competition and market conduct rules continue to apply.

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