



TASMANIAN FARMERS & GRAZIERS ASSOCIATION

18 Marcus Clarke Street
Canberra City
ACT 2601

Via email: IGAreview@agriculture.gov.au

TFGA Contribution – Review of the Intergovernmental Agreement on National Drought Program Reform (IGA)

Dear Mr Hutchison,

The Tasmanian Farmers & Graziers Association (TFGA) is the leading representative body for Tasmanian primary producers. TFGA members are responsible for generating approximately 80% of the value created by the Tasmanian agricultural sector.

Agriculture is one of the key pillars of the Tasmanian economy and, with the current level of support from government, we are well positioned to further capitalise on the stature of Tasmania agriculture. The TFGA welcomes the opportunity to contribute to the Review of the Intergovernmental Agreement on National Drought Program Reform (IGA).

From first-hand experience and with consultation, the TFGA is in general, currently comfortable with the progress being made in relation to the outlined objectives of the IGA. The pursuit of improvement and sustainability in the agriculture sector is a driving objective of the TFGA. Encouraging farmers to be self-reliant and build capacity in preparedness for less than desirable times of drought, this is key to the continued prosperity of the industry.

The major theme of feedback from consultation with stakeholders was the need to promote stronger collaboration between all stakeholders, Federal, State, rural stakeholders and service providers; by continually increasing levels of collaboration between all stakeholder the promotion, development and rollout of fit for purpose programs should continue to improve. Flexibility, manoeuvrability and adaptability in these situations is key to successfully progressing programs of this nature. This will ensure that these programs deliver 'net public benefit'.

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The TFGA has enjoyed the collaboration with other stakeholders including the State government and the Forum of Rural Stakeholders and looks forward to further developing these relationships. It would be a positive in the future to see occasional federal representation at these forums, this would allow greater insight and collaboration for all present.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "W. A. Johnston". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'J'.

Wayne Johnston
TFGA President
17th October 2017