

My name is Vaughan Campbell. I'm a surfer & sometime fisherman [recreational]. A father & grandfather and I am absolutely appalled by the government's handling of our oceanic resources.

To even CONTEMPLATE allowing a fishing vessel the size of the FV Margiris into Australian waters is criminally reckless. To believing a cynical name change will alter the public's perception of the likely damage it will inflict, is misguided to say the least. Industrial fishing on this scale is profiteering in its most insidious form, leaving long term devastation in its wake.

This situation reminds me of the Rutilite Mining Industry and its legacy of problems we are still dealing with today. That industry was allowed to rape our coastline leaving behind introduced plants which have continued to wreak havoc ever since. The industry was never required to fix the problem - they just took their profits and left - leaving the Australian public to deal with the fallout. Fallout which my grandchildren's grandchildren will be attempting to rectify into the future.

This vessel & others like it have an "already proven" record of environmental vandalism in other parts of the world. Why would any RESPONSIBLE authority allow the same thing to happen here - with government blessing.

Our oceans are under extreme pressure already, from many different interest groups. The last thing we need to do is add one more!

Please think very carefully about what is being proposed; who are the main beneficiaries; what are the LONG -TERM effects and costs; if mistakes are made, what kind of legacy are you leaving for our children ?

If there is any possibility of irreparable damage being done, even in the short term, then we must surely err on the side of caution. Too often we have made bad decisions in government departments and no one has taken responsibility for them - don't make another one.

Yours sincerely,

Vaughan Campbell