TO THE HONOURABLE THE SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The petition of farming families and certain citizens of Australia draw to the attention of the House:

- That it is a blatant cost shift and an erosion of property rights to seek to achieve public conservation objectives by forcing farmers to retain native vegetation (beyond their normal duty of care and voluntary actions);
- That the Government has relied on carbon offsets in privately owned native vegetation to meet Australia's obligations under the Kyoto Protocol;
- That current mining and water legislation fails to protect farmers' property rights; and
- That farmers must be compensated for the provision of biodiversity services and carbon services as well as the erosion of farmers property rights as a result of Government regulation and/or legislation.

We therefore ask the House:

- To restore farmers' rights to sustainably manage and develop their properties; or
- Pass legislation to oblige Australian Governments to:
    - Pay fair and reasonable rent for provision of environmental services;
    - Pay farmers fair value for carbon embodied in native vegetation; and
    - Provide just terms compensation when Governments make decisions that devalue property.
- In the event that the High Court of Australia finds judgment that the current legislation is unconstitutional, that the Federal Government take the matter to the citizens of Australia via a referendum to be held no later than the next Federal election, following the judgment.

Principal Petitioner
Charles Armstrong, President
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Signature: Charles Armstrong

Name	Address	Signature

Growing the Business of Farming | NSW Farmers Association

SIGN ONLY THIS SIDE OF THE PETITON – DO NOT SIGN ON BACK
Return to: NSW Farmers' Association, Reply Paid 1068, Sydney NSW 2001