

## INQUIRY INTO COMMERCIAL FISHING IN NEW SOUTH WALES

**Name:** Name suppressed

**Date received:** 7 December 2016

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Partially  
Confidential

FISHING BUSINESS OWNER

December 6, 2016

ATTENTION: MR. MICK VEITCH,  
NSW SHADOW MINISTER FOR PRIMARY INDUSTRIES

Re: SUBMISSION FOR FISHING INDUSTRY INQUIRY

I wish to make my submission against the so-called ratification of the Fishing Industry.

- The State Government has gone into this half cocked as many questions I ask no one seems to be able to answer.
- Under the new Rules you now have to buy additional shares at greatly **INFLATED PRICES** whereas the amount of shares I had before was sufficient to continue my business.
- The Government seems to think that there will be sufficient shares surrendered through the Share Trading Subsidy Market for those forced to purchase more to remain in the fishing industry.
- The Government intends to reduce the days available to fish in the meshing endorsement. This appears to be a **RESTRICTION OF TRADE** and imagine if you told any other profession or industry that they were only allowed to work for 93 days per year, in continuous 24 hour periods **NOTIFIED IN ADVANCE**, there would be an uproar. Apart from not being practical it would be **DANGEROUS**. If the shares and finances were available to me I would be able to buy three (3) further blocks of 125 shares each to enable me to mesh for a full year as I do now. The \$80,000.00 loan would only just cover the cost of one block (another 93 days) if I could find the shares to purchase.

I also need a further 25 shares to be able to continue my Estuary General - Prawning, that is also if I can find some and also afford them.

The Government is offering a low interest loan of \$80,000. So they already know that these shares will be beyond the reach of most fisherman. **WHY** would I want a further debt on my shoulders to that I already have? They are also offering \$10,000 retraining incentive but most fisherman fish because that is **WHAT THEY WANT TO DO**. It is not necessarily an easy life but it is one they enjoy.

The Government ran a non binding trial Preview Share Trading Market for sale and purchase of shares to try and judge the feeling of the Fisherman in the Industry. It appears to be so poorly participated in that they are unwilling to release the results as this would give some indication to the amount of shares offered for trade..

The cut off dates for participation in Business Buybacks and the Share Trading Market and Share Trading Transfer Applications keeps getting pushed back further and further because nobody again seems to know what is going on.

If the aim of this rationalisation is to reduce the number of licenses available, it would be better to offer a reasonable buyback of licenses for anyone willing to participate and leave the rest of the fishing business as is.

Yours from a disgruntled fisherman,

Aged 33

**SHARES REQUIRED BY ME TO KEEP FISHING AS I AM NOW, IF AVAILABLE.**

**Costs at current market prices from FishOnline, NoticeBoard for Sales & Trade on DPI Website.**

375 Shares for Estuary General - Meshing - Region	(approx. \$195,000.00 going on only offering as seen)
25 shares for Estuary General - Prawning - Region 4	(Have not seen any offerings)
20 Shares OTLLW - Line West	(Between \$1,000.00 to \$1,500.00 per individual share) = \$20,000.00 to \$30,000
10 shares OTLD - Demersal Trap	(Between \$375.00 to \$500.00 per individual share) = Between \$3,750 to \$5,000.00)
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$220,000.00 PLUS 25 Prawning shares if found. (Otherwise I cannot Prawn)</b>

**HOW MUCH WILL GOVERNMENT BE WILLING TO SUBSIDISE AT THESE PRICES?**