

**INQUIRY INTO COMMERCIAL FISHING IN NEW SOUTH
WALES**

Name: Mr Barry Aish

Date received: 9 December 2016



Registered office:

577 Singleton Road

Laughtondale 2775

Via Wiseman's Ferry

ABN: 97200112909

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November 2016

**NSW Parliamentary Inquiry
MEMBER PERSONAL
SUBMISSION**

Send to:

The Director

Inquiry into commercial Fishing NSW

Upper House Committee

Parliament of NSW 2000

SYDNEY

NSW

From:

Name: BARRY AISH.

Address: _____

_____ Date: 29/11/2016.



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Commercial Fisher Personnel Comments to the Inquiry

Introduction:

I am a commercial fisher working in Region: 4-5-6-7

I have been in the Fishing Industry for: 55 Years

I have many concerns for the way the commercial fishery is being managed in NSW and draw your attention to my personal views on the following:

The Impact to my Business Shareholding is as follows:

Fishery _____ Shares held: _____ Shares now required _____

Fishery _____ Shares held: _____ Shares now required _____

Fishery _____ Shares held: _____ Shares now required _____

Fishery _____ Shares held: _____ Shares now required _____

Fishery _____ Shares held: _____ Shares now required _____

Fishery _____ Shares held: _____ Shares now required _____

Fishery _____ Shares held: _____ Shares now required _____

Fishery _____ Shares held: _____ Shares now required _____

Fishery _____ Shares held: _____ Shares now required _____

Fishery _____ Shares held: _____ Shares now required _____

I have had to pre purchase shares because:

TO BE ABLE TO CONTINUE FISHING AS I HAVE
HISTORICALLY DONE.

Please note the following personal views of the impacts to my business and my personal situation: AS THIS REFORM IS AGAINST MY VIABLE

FISHING BUSINESS I AM AT A LOSS TO BE ABLE TO COMMIT
ANY MORE MONEY INTO THE FISHING INDUSTRY AS I HAVE
ALREADY SPENT MORE THAN \$500,000 SINCE THIS
SHARE MANAGED FISHERY HAS BEEN IMPLEMENTED.

Please sign every page.....



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Commercial Fisher Personnel Comments to the Inquiry

Subsidised Trading:

(circle the answer you support)

- In Your opinion is it fair? ~~Yes~~ / No
- Has the process been adequately explained? ~~Yes~~ / No
- Can you access a computer? Yes / No
- Did the training answer your questions? ~~Yes~~ / No
- Can you have ease of trading your shares knowing that you will get
enough to continue what you did pre the reform? Yes / No
- Do you agree that you are trying to buy back your job? Yes / ~~No~~
- Have you borrowed money? Yes / ~~No~~
- How will the debt you have incurred affect your viability?
- It will be better? ~~Yes~~ / No
- Do you see that you will have more value in your business? ~~Yes~~ / No
- Do you agree to the need to linking shares with effort or quota? ~~Yes~~ / No
- Do you perceive that the process has made it impossible for you to
regain shares to reach the level of effort for your business viability? Yes / ~~No~~
- Did you support the message to the Minister that inactive share
holders should be offered a buy-out first with a fair offer? Yes / ~~No~~
- Did you support the message to the Minister that NO fisher should be
Forced to buy back their jobs to do what they do today? ~~Yes~~ / ~~No~~ ^{YES}
- Is paying even 5% or 10% for the shares taking you into too much debt? Yes/ ~~No~~
- Are you able to participate in the share trading? ~~Yes~~ / No
- Do you support how this reform has been structured? Yes / No
- In the period 2007 to 2016 have you ever agreed to a Reform in this manner? ... ~~Yes~~ / No
- Did your Management Advisory Committee agree to a reform in this manner? ... ~~Yes~~ / No



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(Circle the answer you support)

Did you know about the 'Pymont Pact' and the decision by NSW Seafood Industry Advisory Committee? To remove 100% inactive effort and 50% active effort? ... ~~Yes~~ / No

Do you support this to be a fair strategy for 2016? ~~Yes~~ / No

Do you agree to the method selected by DPI to use the collective Catch History of the individual fisher, divide this with all fishers across the state in a pro rata distribution for some fisheries to develop quota and or effort? ~~Yes~~ / No

If you disagreed with the Linkage options and the reform, were you welcome to sit at the working group meetings / ~~Yes~~ / No

Can you clearly make a business decision from the information that has been provided to you for this Business structural adjustment program at this stage? ~~Yes~~ / No

Are you aware of any harvest strategy or cost benefit analysis? ~~Yes~~ / No

Mock/Preview Share trading:

Did you participate in this? _____ Yes / ~~No~~

Did this resolve your questions? _____ Yes / No

Please explain:

BECAUSE THE SHARE TRADING SITE WAS NOT
AVAILABLE I DID NOT GET TO PARTICIPATE.



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Commercial Fishers Personal Views

(Circle the answer you support)

Has DPI given you any information and analysis of the outcome of the trading?

..... ~~Yes~~ / No

Is it a satisfactory result? ~~Yes~~ / No

Please explain:

Just did not work.

Is your current debt prohibiting you from borrowing for your business? Yes/~~No~~

Please verify did you utilize the grant for financial advisor? ~~Yes~~ / No

Did the advisor confidently recommend investment? ~~Yes~~ / No

Do you support the changes for unendorsed crew brought out in July? ~~Yes~~ / No

Why? *Depends on the circumstances.*
Some are fair and some are not.

Were you adequately advised of these changes? ~~Yes~~ / No
your views:

never advised about the above
changes.

Do you have the changes in writing that give you clear directions on what is
permissible in your region? ~~Yes~~ / No



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Personal Commercial Fishers views:

(Circle the answer you support)

Do you have issues in your region with the Prawn Draw? Yes / ~~No~~

Please explain

*it would be inequitable
on share by share basis.*

Do you support the further culling of Active commercial fishers from the inshore waters estuaries and lakes in NSW? ~~Yes~~ / No

Please explain:

*because there will not be
enough fresh ^{local} sea for the N.S.W.
general public.*

Do you support the movement of Quota into other regions ~~Yes~~ / No

Why?

*DEPENDS WHEN YOU ARE MENTIONING
KGS - QUOTA - YES
OR TALKING DAY QUOTA - POSSIBLY NO*



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Personal Commercial Fishers views

(circle the answer your support)

Is there now a visible Increase of trap setting in your region that concerns you?

Yes / ~~No~~

If you're an Indigenous Fisher:

Have you been informed of your future participation in the reform adequately?

Please explain:

Are you being ostracised by other fishers since the trapping and hauling net and prawn draw changes have occurred Yes / NO

Please explain: _____

If you are a Line West or Line East Fisher please state which fishery and if you Know what is proposed for your fishery..... ~~Yes~~ / No

Please clarify: _____



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Personal Commercial Fishers views

(Circle the answer you support)

Given there is approximately 1% of the Australian Population allowed to commercially fish to provide seafood for approximately 78% of the population who do not fish recreationally do you agree that there is a major management issue in providing local seafood to local communities in NSW? Yes / ~~No~~

Your views:

Further Comments.

SEE ATTACHED LETTERS

I HAVE ISSUES WITH THE DPI REGARDING
MY PERSONAL CATCH HISTORY OF SEAGARFISH
THAT WAS NOT AFFORDED TO ME IN
THE SHARE MANAGEMENT. THIS IN TURN
DOES NOT ALLOW ME TO WORK AS I HISTORICALLY
HAVE. I AM STILL PERSUING MY RIGHT
TO HAVE THESE SHARES RETURNED TO ME
I WILL NOT GIVE UP.

Remember to attach correspondence you have sent to DPI, or the Minister,

SUBMISSION TO THE PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY INTO THE FISHING INDUSTRY.

This inquiry concerns all fishermen in New South Wales. Most of the fishermen have been totally disgusted at the way DPI have turned their businesses into being non viable.

After all the meetings that have been held in New South Wales their discontent with DPI have been pushed aside and have not been listened to and heard by them.

The main concern being their own catch history that has been allocated to them and then distributed to all and everyone. This has actually been stolen from individuals who earned the right to fish previously. Being able to work regularly against all weather conditions and when fish are in season, to be allocated only so many days or xx amount of kgs to fish is unjust.

Sustainability has been said numerous times and even DPI acknowledge that the Commercial Fishing Industry in New South Wales is sustainable.

Why change something that has been sustainable for generations.

How dare the Parliament and DPI take a livelihood away from the Commercial Fishermen when all fishermen run their business for a living.

What fishermen face is the lack of water to fish. Lakes and ocean foreshores have been closed and with proposals of Marine Parks to be implemented in the future it makes it even harder for commercial fishermen to make a living.

How many people work a 24 hour day? As stated by the DPI in their bright coloured brochures, a fishing day consists of 24 hours.

How can fishermen sustain his health when this has not been thought through. If you have multiple endorsements you cannot fulfil the requirements of your fishing business in this time. It should have been -
e.g. Meshing 8 hours per day = 3 days

Prawning 6 hours per day = 4 days

Where was the logic in a day of 24 hours when it is virtually impossible to do everything in one day.

These are just some of the inconsistencies in this reform, brought on by a misled Government, Minister and DPI of the day. We will continue to fight for our rights.

The Deputy Director General is very adamant that this reform is going to go ahead after reading his email. He didn't even get the adjusted dates right when he informed of the extension. At least the DPI did give a cut off date of 31st January 2017.

Don't they talk to one another?

The Minister seems to think we are telling lies about the feeling of the Commercial Fishermen and their Industry. The attached letter says differently and this is fact.

QUESTIONS TO BE ASKED OF THE MINISTER

: Has the Minister been talking to anyone in the Sydney Fish Market concerning the proposed DPI reform?

: If so, who are they and do they support the DPI reform?

: What role does the New South Wales Seafood Industry Council play in the DPI reform concerning yourself?

: Is this a secret organisation?

: Do they have confidentiality agreements between its members?

: I think these above questions are relevant where we had a Meeting with _____; Manager of SFM, on 30/4/13, whereby he drew on a page about the New South Wales Seafood Industry Council because we did not know what it was.

_____ in turn when questioned about the reform got quite heated and pointed to the diagram he drew and said “these are the people you should be following” and in turn he pointed to the PFA and the SFM. These are the organisations he said you should be going to and the DPI was also mentioned.

Thus in turn I wrote the following letters and got replies from the Board of the SFM. (FYI)

Up until this particular time this NSWIC was a secret to the majority of the fishermen and in no way do I want an organisation speaking for me with regard to my fishing businesses.

Is this the organisation you are talking to?

If so, this organisation has not had the approval of the majority of Wild Caught Fishers of NSW, then why are you talking to them?

: Attached are letters referring to same.

: Has the PFA been privy to this reform before others? And is it correct that the Minister does not want to include the Wild Caught Fishers Coalition (WCFC) in its meetings regarding this reform. It has been touted that the Wild Caught Fishers Coalition are telling lies about the reform. Could it be the Minister that is telling lies about the reform?

: Could this be the reason you do not want to have a Meeting with myself and my family regarding issues that I have with the DPI about my fishing businesses.

BARRY AISH

COMMERCIAL FISHERMAN