

INQUIRY INTO COMMERCIAL FISHING IN NEW SOUTH WALES

Name: Mr Sabino Ragno

Date received: 9 December 2016



Registered office:
577 Singleton Road
Loughtondale 2775
Via Wiseman's Ferry
ABN: 97200112909
Email: admin@wildcaughtcoalition.com

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: Sabino Ragno

Address: _____

_____ **Date:** 9 / 12 / 2016

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Commercial Fisher Personal Comments to the Inquiry

Introduction:I am a commercial fisher working in Region: 4I have been in the Fishing Industry for: 27 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 Estuary General Prawning Shares held: 150 Shares now required 0Fishery Estuary General Trapping Shares held: 125 Shares now required 500Fishery Estuary General Mud Crabbing Shares held: 125 Shares now required 250Fishery Estuary General Meshing Shares held: 125 Shares now required 500Fishery Handlining & Hauling Crew Shares held: 125 Shares now required 375Fishery Ocean Hauling Crew Shares held: 40 Shares now required 40

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:

I had to purchase 25 EGP shares as if I didn't as of 1/7/2017 I would no longer be able to prawn which makes up three quarters of my income. Fisheries could not guarantee that the shares I needed would be available on the share trading market.

Please note the following personal views of the impacts to my business and my personal situation: To continue operating my business at the current level I am now I will need to

purchase a lot of shares that will cause me to go into debt



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Commercial Fisher Personal 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 ☐

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:

I received no information regarding my results, so I don't know if I was successful or unsuccessful



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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:

..... We got no information regarding share prices, shares available or any personal
information regarding my attempt at the share trading.

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? Because that decision made my Hauling Crew endorsement worthless.

.....
.....

Were you adequately advised of these changes? Yes ☒ No

your views: We find out after decisions are already made and have no consultation what so ever

.....
.....
.....

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

Not at the moment

Do you support the further culling of Active commercial fishers from the inshore waters estuaries and lakes in NSW?

Yes ☐ **No** ☒

Please explain:

I don't believe that any active fisherman should loose their job over any decisions

made by DPI

Do you support the movement of Quota into other regions

Yes ☐ **No** ☒

Why?



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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:

My views are that if DPI want to get rid of the latent effort they should use the \$16m and have a volutary buy out offering decent amounts of money for their businesses because contrary to what DPI says in my opinion there are no sustainability or viability issues in the Region 4 estuary general fisheries. Also it is ridiculous to put quota on such a low priced product such as blue swimmer crabs because all that that will create is alot of black marketing and discreded cheap crabs.

Further Comments.

I am very disappointed in the consultation process of the whole reform as the minister states he has met with over 200 fishermen I have never been 1 of them and with over 700 fishermen in NSW how is that a fair & just consultation process, to me that is the minority deciding for the majority.

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

[illegible]