



from the

PRESIDENT'S DESK



NFF's Cure Worse than the Disease

Across the world, polls show a sharp decline in the percentage of people who believe that man's activities are causing catastrophic climate change.

It could have something to do with the Climategate emails in which climate scientists were exposed as engaging in corrupt and fraudulent practices contrary to the scientific method.

Or it could be that people notice that there is a great divergence between the weather they observe and that which is forecast by official agencies.

The polls also show that Australian farmers are the most reluctant of all to believe that man's activities are heating the world and inviting a climate apocalypse. The daily experience of the farmer tells him there is nothing new in a changing climate. If it's happened before, it can happen again -- and probably worse.

When politicians can alter the tilt of the earth's axis, reverse the great ocean currents, stop the trade winds, cap volcanoes, and modify the activity of the sun and the location of the moon, then we will believe that they can control the climate with taxes and regulation.

This hasn't stopped our purported representatives in Canberra, the National Farmers Federation (NFF), casting their lot with the Gillard Government's "eliminate carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and wreck the Australian economy" campaign.

Mr. Laurie, in qualifying the NFF's broad support for the Government's carbon farming initiative (CFI) says, "We remain alarmed by the potential impact on Australia's \$32 billion a year farm exports should a domestic carbon price be introduced that compromises our ability to compete in international markets regardless of farmers accessing any CFI credits."

What can one say? The NFF is selling us out with its eyes wide shut. The going price for treachery like this used to be 30 pieces of silver.

The determination of what constitutes a carbon farming credit will always be arbitrary. The value will always be directly proportional to how much harm the Government is prepared to inflict on the rest of the economy.

The day the Government pulls the pin on the CFI... which they will, just as with cash for clunkers, carbon storage and capture, the pink batt insulation scheme and others... all farmers' investments will be worthless.

The NFF is endorsing something far worse than the weather, which actually lets up every now and then. In exposing Australian farmers to the relentless ebbs and flows of politics, NFF's solutions are infinitely worse than the problem.

Rob Gillam

THE PGA REPRESENTS THE INTERESTS OF FARMERS AND PASTORALISTS FROM ALL AGRICULTURAL AREAS OF WA, FROM ESPERANCE TO THE KIMBERLEY. PGA MEMBERS ARE MAJOR PRODUCERS OF AGRICULTURAL EXPORT COMMODITIES – INCLUDING GRAIN, BEEF, SHEEP AND WOOL – AND BELIEVE IN FREE TRADE, OPEN MARKETS, PROPERTY RIGHTS AND PRIVATE ENTERPRISE.



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