



QUEENSLAND FARMERS' FEDERATION

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Sugar Code of Conduct Review
Department of Agriculture and Water Resources
GPO Box 858
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Via email: sugarcodereview@agriculture.gov.au

Dear Sir / Madam

Re: Review of the *Competition and Consumer (Industry Code – Sugar) Regulations 2017*

The Queensland Farmers' Federation (QFF) acknowledges the current review of the *Competition and Consumer (Industry Code—Sugar) Regulations 2017* (the Regulations) that establish the Sugar Code of Conduct (the Code). QFF understands that the purpose of the Code is to regulate the conduct of growers, mill owners and marketers (of grower economic interest sugar – GEI) in relation to contracts or agreements for the supply of cane or the on-supply of sugar. This includes establishing a process for pre-contractual arbitration where the parties fail to agree to terms of contracts or agreements.

The Code also seeks to ensure that supply contracts between growers and mill owners guarantee a grower's choice of the marketing entity for the sale of sugar for which the grower bears the price exposure risk.

QFF notes that the department will use the review to provide advice on whether the Code should: a) remain in operation without amendment; or b) remain in operation with amendment; or c) be repealed.

QFF supports the joint submission made by our members CANEGROWERS and the Australian Cane Farmers Association (ACFA) dated 22 August 2018 and notes that it recommends the government: ***ensure the Code remains in place for the long term, with further review after 10 years, to provide certainty and stability to the sugar cane industry and its investors.***

Representing 4,500 cane farmers, CANEGROWERS and ACFA are best placed to advise government why the Code must remain in place for the long term and QFF strongly recommends that the department consult extensively with them on this matter.

Yours sincerely

Mr Travis Tobin
Chief Executive Officer

The united voice of intensive agriculture

