

Submission

28 September 2018

Mr David Hatfield Director - Adjudication Branch Australian Competition and Consumer Commission GPO Box 3131 CANBERRA ACT 2601

Via email: adjudication@accc.gov.au

Dear Mr Hatfield

Re: AA1000429 – AgStewardship application

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on the re-authorisation of AgStewardship relating to the operation of the drumMUSTER[®] and ChemClear[®] programs.

The Queensland Farmers' Federation (QFF) expresses its support for the re-authorisation of these stewardship programs, including increasing the levy from four (4) to six (6) cents per litre/kilogram to ensure their ongoing sustainability.

QFF understands that AgStewardship has consulted with the National Farmers' Federation and CropLife Australia about increasing the levy by 2 cents per litre/kilogram, and this was supported. While QFF acknowledges that an increase in the levy will impact upon end users, the value to rural communities is of greater overall benefit. It is our view that farmers understand this and will continue to support the drumMUSTER[®] and ChemClear[®] programs. In addition, these products are very price sensitive, so it is anticipated that manufacturers that sign up to the levy are likely to continue to price match competitors who operate outside the levy.

QFF hopes that these programs, which have set the global benchmark in industry stewardship programs, will be further supported through the current Queensland Government's Waste Strategy and supporting Plastic Reductions Plan.

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Yours sincerely

Mr Travis Tobin Chief Executive Officer

The united voice of intensive agriculture

