



NORTHERN TERRITORY CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION INC.

Member - National Farmers' Federation & Cattle Council of Australia

MEDIA RELEASE

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GET IN THE SAME Paddock ON CARBON BILL – NT CATTLEMEN CALL ON GOVERNMENT AND OPPOSITION

The Northern Territory Cattlemen's Association has called on the Federal Government and Opposition to work together on climate change issues for the sake of Australia's world-class food production sector.

"We need an agreement on the Emissions Trading Scheme that will give agriculture a part in reducing world green house gas production while also protecting our future," said NTCA President Rohan Sullivan.

"The current Bill should not be passed until we have a proposal that excludes agriculture. The current bill is flawed," he said.

"Reduced emissions from our agricultural sector is the only reason Australia has met its Kyoto targets so far," he said. "If we can all work together to come up with sensible policies, we can probably all do more."

"The key problem with the Government's current proposal is its plan to include agriculture's natural emissions, while providing no realistic opportunity to offset those emissions and balance the ledger.

"No other country in the world, apart from New Zealand, is even contemplating such a ludicrous idea," Mr Sullivan said.

"In fact, in America, an offset scheme for farmers is a key element of the draft US Senate Bill while the European Union, which has an ETS that doesn't include farm emissions, has announced it will provide additional concessions for food processing sectors," he said.

"The world faces a global food security challenge. We should be looking at positive ways to support, not hamstring, the agricultural sector." he said.

Contact:

Luke Bowen- Executive Director NTCA

08 8981 5976 luke.bowen@ntca.org.au