



Senator the Hon Nigel Scullion

Minister for Indigenous Affairs
Leader of the Nationals in the Senate
Country Liberals Senator for the Northern Territory

Media Release

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Territory helps shape Australia's agriculture policy agenda

Country Liberals Senator for the Northern Territory Nigel Scullion has welcomed Agriculture Minister Barnaby Joyce's announcement that the Agricultural Competitiveness Green Paper is now available for public comment.

Senator Scullion said the Australian Government agricultural policy was focused on increasing returns at the farm gate.

"The Coalition is continuing to deliver on its commitment to boost the competitiveness and profitability of Australia's agricultural sector including here in the Territory," Senator Scullion said.

"In 2011–12 agricultural production was worth \$483 million to the Northern Territory, with livestock and horticulture contributing the most to this important industry."

The Green Paper represents the next step towards the development of a White Paper.

The Green Paper has been built from the ground up drawing on the valuable input from farmers and industry and community representatives.

The Green Paper presents a number of possible policy ideas put forward by stakeholders during the issues paper consultation process.

"If you want to help shape Australia's and the Territory's agriculture policy agenda, then I encourage you to make a submission to the Green Paper," Senator Scullion said.

Minister Joyce said there were 25 diverse policy themes for comment in the Green Paper.

"As a nation, we need a competitive and innovative agricultural sector—a sector that increases farm gate profitability, has expanded export and trade opportunities, and strengthens our rural and regional communities," Minister Joyce said.

Submissions are due 5pm EST 12 December 2014.

To find out more visit www.agriculturalcompetitiveness.dpmc.gov.au

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