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Senator Pauline Hanson

One Nation Senator for Queensland

Press Release

24 January, 2017

Pauline Hanson Is Prepared to Fly to Singapore to Defend Queensland Farmers

Senator Pauline Hanson has delivered a frank "please explain" to Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull and the Deputy PM Barnaby Joyce, who is also the Agricultural Minister, as they continue to drag their feet and delay action on a number of issues related to Queensland.

Senator Hanson is scathing of the Governments lack of will to force Wilmar to provide the Burdekin Cane Growers with a fair and necessary ongoing agreement. Our Governments, past and present, have allowed foreign interests to buy up our industries, agriculture and infrastructure leaving ourselves wide open to control and exploration.

"These cane farmers have sought my help because they are at their wits end. These are strong men almost broken because they feel no one is prepared to listen, or come to their defence.

"They have spoken with Barnaby Joyce but all they got were broken promises and now he has stopped returning their

"I put the Prime Minister in contact with a representative from the cane growers. The PM assured me he would follow this up. Apparently it was passed back to Barnaby Joyce's office so the merry go round continues.

"I don't know if the Prime Minister or his Deputy understand this, but these farmers are running out of time! Every day that passes brings these farmers one step closer to ruin.

"Wilmar has all the sugar mills and rail lines in the Burdekin under their control. This means Wilmar has what amounts to a regional monopoly on the milling of cane throughout the Burdekin Basin. Wilmar is using this as leverage against our cane growers and are refusing to finalise a fair deal. At the end of the day, foreign companies care nothing about Australia or its long term growth. Instead they only care about making a quick buck. This is not good enough. These cane growers are being held hostage

"I want to know, why does it appear that Barnaby has thrown this into the too hard basket? These farmers need your help and you have left them feeling abandoned. As far as I am concerned, I agree with the farmers when they say 'Barnaby Joyce is as useless as tits on a bull'

"Where are the other Queensland Senators and Representatives standing up for their fellow Australians? Why will they not speak up?

"I have organised a meeting this Friday between myself, the CEO and Senior Executives of Wilmar and representatives of the cane growers to sort out a fair and equitable outcome for the mutual benefit of all parties. If this is not achieved at that meeting I'm prepared to fly to the head office of Wilmar in Singapore because this needs to be sorted out.

"Why are our Governments, past and present, bowing down to foreign money and abandoning the people they are supposed to protect? It's not good enough and it's time for things to change!

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