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The Secretary

State Development Natural Resources and Agriculture Industry Development Committee

Parliament house

Brisbane.

Dear sir/ madam

May I take this opportunity to introduce myself My name is Allan James Bobbermen I am A second generation fishermen operating in a diverse fishing operation from the Port of Cardwell .I have also been selected as a member of the inshore fin fishery working group.

I am writing this submission in good faith as a response to **the Public Hearing Inquiry into the Sustainable Fisheries Harvest** Strategy on behalf of fisherpersons and members of the broader community who are unable to express themselves in the written word.

The concerns are broken down into the following sections

- VMS
- Urgent Declarations
- Harvest Strategies

Vessel monitoring systems VMS

It is understood that this tool is going to be a condition of the AUTHORITY HOLDER to operate. [Clause 59 Section 118]Which will be at the authority holders cost with loose ended guarantees that our intellectual property [trade secrets] will be protected.

It has been recognised by fishery managers that this important information does have a net worth dollar value.

Concerns of industry operators are.

- Consultation at port meetings was poor and uninformative with different groups being told conflicting interpretations
- Fisheries Qld have negotiated on behalf of industry and are insisting operators sign a Waiver which enables Fishery Qld to piggy back of the service provider to retrieve individual information. This will undoubtedly have windows of opportunity for abuse.
- There is a subsidy for start-up costs however this is a once of payment.
- Industry has been informed by the service providers that there would be approximately some 4,000 units required which the polling costs have been based on. The service providers have now been faced with a more realistic number of units there is serious concerns with future polling costs.
- There has been no cost modelling been carried out on the ongoing costs the amendment will incur.
- A serious question which has been raised with the service provider in relation to disputes over service or polling costs can result in a suspension of service which put simply means the operator can go to work through no fault of their own, as they will be issued with an infringement notice which will in turn place financial hardship on their businesses.
- Fisheries Qld have stated the Harvest Strategy is evidence based there are alternative models which have been put to managers that industry takes charge of the collecting the information and fishery managers buy the information from industry. This model is used in fisheries globally the question which needs to be answered why hasn't this modelling been considered here in the QLD fishery?

Urgent Declarations.

Under the proposed amendment **Subdivision 3 Section 38 there** are concerns as intent is open for abuse.

- Under the harvest strategy the term Species of Conservation Interest **Sightings** This terminology needs to be clarified as sightings open a window of opportunity to lobby groups to have declaration put into place.

Harvest Strategies

Clause 8 Amendment of 3A [How particular purposes are primarily Achieved.

The Public hearing head of the number of participants who submitted submissions to the Green Paper which in real terms could be regarded as a Poor response if it is compared to population of Queensland, to regard the response level good would be an understatement.

What is concerning to operators that no business modelling has been undertaken and for operators to remain in the industry there is going to be further financial burden placed on their business.

Fisheries Queensland are reluctant to conduct a RIS as set out in the guidelines of the Queensland Productivity Commission..

Conclusion

As a member of the ISWG volunteering my time away from my business and have sat in on four meetings , it is becoming quite clear that there is a de facto working group where decisions have already been made despite being told this not the case. It is a general consensus that the one on one consultation at port visits was none other than a tick the box exercise.

Participants have been told the fishery is sustainable and there is evidence based documentation to support this question which is being raised is why this this process in top gear at a runaway train pace.

This whole process is a resource allocation at the commercial sectors expense which ultimately will see long term operators exit the industry reducing the number of fishing businesses depriving the broader community who rely on wild harvested premium seafood, forcing them to buy imported products which are harvested and packaged under dubious standards.

There is only one conclusion that can be drawn. this runaway train is going to end in a **Train Wreck.**