

ATTACHMENT 3: KINGDOM OF THE NETHERLANDS LETTER OF SUPPORT



Kingdom of the Netherlands

Mr Chris Quinn
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Embassy of the Kingdom of the
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Contact

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Date December 6, 2013
Re Eynesbury Fields

Dear Mr Quinn,

Thank you for the opportunity for the Netherlands Embassy to visit the site of Eynesbury Fields on 29 November 2013.

The Netherlands prides itself on being a global leader in intensive agriculture. As the world's second largest exporter of agricultural products after the USA, much of our food is produced from the 7,000ha glasshouse precinct in Westland, near Rotterdam.

We understand that you have taken inspiration from Westland and are seeking to collaborate with growers, educators and suppliers from the Netherlands to create an intensive agriculture precinct at Eynesbury with local and international partners.

The Netherlands Embassy views Eynesbury as an opportunity to further develop bilateral partnerships with Australia in the agriculture industry.

Therefore, the Netherlands Embassy will monitor the development of the project with interest and where possible, provide support in bringing the project in touch with possible interested parties in the Netherlands.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Arthur den Hartog', is written over a light blue circular stamp.

on behalf of
Arthur den Hartog
Deputy Ambassador



Ministry of Foreign Affairs

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Date 27 May 2014
Re Western Melbourne Hydroponics Precinct – Eynesbury Fields, Australia

Dear Mr Quinn,

Further to our site visit on 29 November 2013 and ongoing discussions about the Western Melbourne Hydroponics Precinct, I appreciate that your project presents ample opportunities to develop bilateral relations between the Netherlands and Australia, in the intensive agriculture and horticulture sector.

As a result, I have the intention to lead a delegation of Dutch officials and leading private growers to tour your project and gain a better understanding of how Victoria is well placed to grow this sector and attract Dutch expertise and knowledge to fast track growth. At this stage the mission is scheduled for the week of 21-26 September 2014.

The Dutch Agro-Food industry contributes 52.5 billion euros of added value to Dutch GDP, and accounting for some 20% of Holland's total export value. It also has the second highest private R&D investment rate (as % of GDP) in Agro-Food in Europe. In 2013 the total area used for intensive glasshouse production was 4890 hectare.

To assist us in finalising and advancing these plans, it would be good if you could arrange a meeting between myself and the delegation with the Hon Peter Ryan (Deputy Premier and Minister for State Development) and Hon Matthew Guy Minister for Planning.

I am looking forward to meet you to discuss opportunities to strengthen Dutch and Australian relations in Agriculture and Horticulture.

Yours sincerely,

Simon J.H. Smits
Director General Foreign Economic Relations