

Saturday, 11 February 2023

Email to: eia.consult@nt.gov.au

Full name: Dean Gall, Premier Fresh Australia Email address : dean.gall@premierfresh.com.au Telephone: 0400 774 442 Address: 103-107 Hyde St, Footscray, Victoria 3011 Are you making this submission on behalf of an organisation? Y

Acknowledgement

I acknowledge that any request to withhold my submission or part of my submission from publication will be considered by the NT EPA, and that the NT EPA may still decide to publish my submission or part of my submission in accordance with regulation 269 of the Environment Protection Regulations 2020.

I understand that my comments will be provided to the NT EPA and government authorities.

I understand that, if my comments relate to the environmental impact assessment of a proposal, my submission will be provided to the proponent and used by the NT EPA to inform its assessment.

I understand that a request not to publish the submission or part of the submission, does not make my submission exempt from disclosure, and that even if NT EPA decides not to publish the submission or part of the submission, my submission and identifying information may still be disclosed if required under the Information Act 2002 or under any other applicable law.

I agree for my submission to be published : Y

I request that my submission be published with my identifying information removed : N



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## **Singleton Horticulture Project**

Comment on FortuneAgri's Referral to EPA

On behalf of Premier Fresh Australia, I would like to express our strong support for the development of the Singleton Horticulture Project that has been referred to the NT EPA by Fortune Agribusiness for environmental approval.

Premier Fresh Australia is one of Australia's largest fresh produce supply chain companies, providing domestic and overseas customers a single source of supply across a diverse range of fruit and vegetable categories.

Premier Fresh Australia has farming operations located in Humpty Doo, Northern Territory (NT) – Darwin Fruit Farms (DFF). DFF is the only commercial banana farm in the NT, supplying NT and National customers with consistent commercial quantities of bananas all year round.

From the information contained in the referral, I understand that extensive investigation works and scientific research have been undertaken by NT Government, Geoscience Australia, and Fortune Agribusiness to investigate horticulture potential in the Western Davenport region. I am pleased to learn that the Singleton Station overlies significant groundwater water resources, is in an area of low pest and disease prevalence and has suitable soils and climate conditions for a range of high value horticulture crops including mandarins and table grapes.

From my visit to Singleton Trial Farm, I appreciate that the produce from Singleton may supply the early season markets, before produce from southern states comes online. There is also the unique potential to supply Australian consumers with Australian grown produce through a period where products have historically needed to be imported.

I have visited Tennant Creek and Alice Springs and seen the challenges of lack of job opportunities and associated social challenges for young people in the region. The Singleton Horticulture Project will provide sustainable job opportunities for those young people while at







the same time provide a significant boost to the local economy in the Barkly region in NT and for food security in Australia.

We are extremely excited with the opportunity to market and distribute the produce from Singleton.

Dean Gall

Chief Operating Officer

Premier Fresh Australia



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