



NATIONAL SEAFOOD INDUSTRY ALLIANCE

PO Box 9022 Deakin ACT 2600 T: 02 90041101 E: nsia09@gmail.com

Federal Election 2013

A guide to the seafood industry

In the lead up to the Federal election to be held on 7 September 2013, the National Seafood Industry Alliance (NSIA) is seeking confirmation of the Federal political parties' policies in regards to the seafood industry in Australia.

The NSIA was established in 2009 to provide representation of our industries at the Federal level on the following key priorities:

- Sustainability;
- Resource access (including the Commonwealth Government's marine planning processes);
- Research, development and extension;
- Promoting industry; and
- Federal cost imposts.

NSIA is seeking Federal political parties to make commitments that in government they will:

- Develop a dedicated seafood industry policy;
- Secure resource access and clearly defined access rights;
- Take action to restore public faith in fisheries management;
- Actively develop the wild-harvest and aquaculture sectors;
- Improve the legislative and policy environment to encourage development of aquaculture;
- Reduce the regulatory complexity and cost imposts;
- Review the Commonwealth marine reserves management plans and the fisheries adjustment assistance package;
- Amend the Primary Industries and Energy Research and Development Act to allow collection of levies for marketing and promotion of seafood;
- Fund those activities of a national seafood industry peak body which provide a liaison function between Government agencies and the Industry;
- Maintain funding for the Fisheries Research & Development Corporation at no less than the present level;
- Remove the current loophole in Country of Origin labelling by extending country of origin laws for seafood to the food service sector;
- Maintain the fuel levy rebate;
- Provide improved economic data about the commercial fishing industry;
- Actively, in conjunction with the industry, further develop the export trade with Asia.

MEMBERS OF NATIONAL SEAFOOD INDUSTRY ALLIANCE



- Maintain Commonwealth funding support for programs and organisations that provide development of and extension services for sustainable fishing practices; and
- Provide a flexible approach to industrial relations in the wild-harvest and aquaculture industries.

To assist with the upcoming election, a comparison of commitments has been tabled for your convenience. Please note this is merely a guide, and the responses from the Australian parties have been interpreted for your benefit. For further information and the full NSIA 2013 Federal Election Policy Statement and Federal parties' responses go to www.seafoodforaustralia.com.au

Table 1: A response to the NSIA 2013 Federal Election Policy Statement, with a comparison of Federal political parties' commitments if elected to government

			
Support for developing a dedicated seafood industry policy	?	✓ (aquaculture)	?
Secure resource access and clearly defined access rights	?	✓	?
Take action to restore public faith in fisheries management	✓	✓	✓
Actively develop the wild-harvest and aquaculture sectors	?	✓	✓
Improve the legislative and policy environment to encourage development of aquaculture	?	✓	✓
Reduce the regulatory complexity and cost imposts	✓	✓	?
Review the Commonwealth marine reserves management plans and the fisheries adjustment assistance package	✗	✓	✗
Amend the Primary Industries and Energy Research and Development Act to allow collection of levies for marketing and promotion of seafood	✓	?	?
Fund those activities of a national seafood industry peak body which provide a liaison function between Government agencies and the Industry	?	✓	?
Maintain funding for the Fisheries Research & Development Corporation at no less than the present level	?	✓	✓
Remove the current loophole in Country of Origin labelling by extending country of origin laws for seafood to the food service sector	✗	?	✗
Maintain the fuel levy rebate	✓	?	✓
Maintain Commonwealth funding support for programs and organisations that provide development of and extension services for sustainable fishing practices	?	✓	✓
Provide improved economic data about the commercial fishing industry	?	?	?
Actively, in conjunction with the industry, further develop the export trade with Asia	✓	?	✓

✓ Clearly addressed ✗ Did not address ? Position is unclear