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Your Ref:
Our Ref:
Enquiries: S Tuten (08)9368 3434
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Dear Louise

SUBMISSION TO THE ISSUES PAPER FOR THE IMPORT RISK ANALYSIS FOR FRESH APPLE FRUIT FROM CHINA AND AMERICA

I refer to the Biosecurity Australia advice 2008/20 and 2008/21 dated 8 July 2008 inviting comments and submissions on the issues papers for the import risk analysis for fresh apple fruit from the People's Republic of China and the United States of America.

The Department of Agriculture and Food, Western Australia (DAFWA) trusts that due to the absence of apple scab (*Venturia inaequalis*) in Western Australia and the lack of adequate risk management measures to prevent the introduction of this disease, apples from the USA and China will not be considered for entry into Western Australia. This will be consistent with the existing policy.

Unfortunately it will not be possible for DAFWA to thoroughly review the issues papers within the specified time period due to resource constraints and competing priorities. However, I trust that you will keep me informed of the progress. It is my intention to be able to allocate the necessary resources to review the draft Import Risk Analysis upon release and should you request assistance in the development of the draft Import Risk Analysis, I would be willing to review resource allocations.

Yours sincerely

Shashi Sharma
DIRECTOR PLANT BIOSECURITY

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