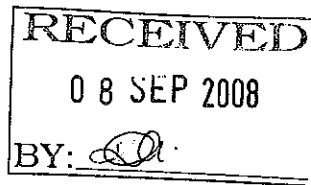




# Department of Primary Industries

2 September 2008



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Dr Colin Grant *ah 8/9/08*  
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*Re: [unclear] → [unclear]  
→ [unclear]*

Dear Dr Grant

## **DPI RESPONSE TO THE ISSUES PAPER FOR THE IMPORT RISK ANALYSIS FOR FRESH APPLES FROM THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST OF THE USA**

Thank you for your memorandum of 8 July 2008, notifying the Department of Primary Industries (DPI) of the release of the Issues Paper for the Import Risk Analysis for fresh Apples from the Pacific Northwest of the USA for comment.

Specialists within the DPI have examined the Issues Paper and have made the following comments:

1. DPI notes the extensive pest and disease list for the Pacific Northwest on pp 16-33. This includes a number of pests and diseases exotic to Australia such as the key bacterial pathogen *Erwinia amylovora*, the cause of fireblight; *Neonectria galligena* (= *Nectria galligena*) the fungal pathogen causing European canker; and *Rhagoletis pomonella* (apple maggot) an important fruit fly pest which requires internal quarantine measures in Washington State.
2. DPI also notes some issues with the background section on the US apple industry on p 9 e.g. orchard tree numbers, taken from a Washington SU publication, have been incorrectly converted to trees per hectare, resulting in significant underestimates – 40 trees per hectare should be around 300 trees per hectare, 240 to 400 trees per hectare should be around 1500-2500 trees/hectare.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the Issues Paper and I look forward to being notified of the progress of this IRA.

Yours sincerely

**HUGH MILLAR**  
Acting Executive Director Biosecurity Victoria

