

SECURE JOBS STRONG COMMUNITIES

OUR NATIONAL FOOD & DAIRY UNION



Hon Jaala Pulford

Minister for Agriculture and Minister for Regional Development

Mr Ari Mervis

Chief Executive Officer, Murray Goulburn

Dear Ms Pulford and Mr Mervis,

RE: Meeting to review Murray Goulburn's proposal to close factories in regional Victoria

I am calling on the Victorian Government to urgently convene a meeting between Government, Murray Goulburn, the National Union of Workers ("NUW") and other stakeholders to review and revise Murray Goulburn's proposal to shut sites in Kiewa and Rochester.

I am calling on Murray Goulburn to commit to attending and participating in the above meeting.

Murray Goulburn's proposal to close factories in Kiewa and Rochester and lay off more than 300 workers will have devastating effects on regional workers, families and communities. The proposal has been justified on the basis of wiping farmers' debt. However, the farmers' debts resulted from bad, short term decision making by the previous CEO and board of Murray Goulburn. Regional workers and families should not have to bear the brunt of Murray Goulburn's mistakes. It is disingenuous to claim Murray Goulburn is helping farmers while devastating regional communities.

Once again Murray Goulburn appears to be making short sighted decisions. While the decision to close sites may offer short term relief to Murray Goulburn, it will have long term damaging implications for regional communities, the dairy industry and farmers in Northern Victoria.

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I call on the Victorian Government to urgently convene a meeting with Murray Goulburn, the NUW and other stakeholders where the full and long term effects of this proposal can be discussed and alternative proposals considered.

I call on Murray Goulburn to support the regional communities that have supported you for years, and commit to attending and participating in the meeting.

Yours sincerely,

Name:

Email:

Workplace:

Postcode: