



Media Release

Senator Alan Eggleston

Liberal Senator for Western Australia

Dairy Inquiry aims to ease burden on small business

24/2/2011

Small business owners in the Kimberley with no hope of competing with cut milk prices can be assured that predatory pricing by the major chains is under investigation, West Australian Senator Alan Eggleston said.

The impact of the recent price cuts on the dairy industry has been referred to the Senate Economics Committees for inquiry and report.

“The decision by the big chains to discount milk to around \$1 per litre will negatively affect the WA dairy industry, and small business,” Senator Eggleston said.

“If the Government doesn’t end the price war and the Australian dairy industry goes under, we could be forced to drink reconstituted milk powder from China.”

Chair of the Senate Economics References Committee, Senator Eggleston said the inquiry will examine if Coles and Woolworths have engaged in anti-competitive and unsustainable practices.

Inquiry meetings will begin early next month, with submissions already being received from dairy producers and organisations.

-Ends-