

Dear Alan, Some months ago I emailed you about Australia selling off agricultural land as well as house and land packages to so-called "overseas investors". Since your reply to the effect that parliament was in the process of re-considering policy, there has been an announcement about restrictions on purchases by overseas buyers, however I remain unconvinced that the negative trend we have embraced will not continue to escalate beyond the point of no return, if that hasn't already occurred, because the restrictions only apply to transactions where there are particularly large sums of money involved! Why hasn't policy been more restrictive? Why are we selling our country to those who are not citizens? Why are we selling our country to citizens of countries who forbid purchase by non-citizens? Why are we so short-sighted on this matter? Is it not obvious that we are on the way to changing forever our right to run our own country! Perhaps not in my lifetime, but certainly in the lifetime of my grandchildren. I recognise that those of us who are not trying to run this country do not see all the facets of the big picture but at the grassroots level, we do get the impact of everyday decisions that are made in Canberra. As a fifth generation Australian and daughter of farming families since arrival in Australia in the 1850s, the land-sale issue is of great concern to me, and I note others too. Can we not have more decisive rulings that protect the future for generations of Australians to come? Your sincerely, Bronwyn Lee