Guy Barnett MP Minister for Primary Industries and Water Minister for Energy Minister for Resources Minister for Veterans' Affairs Liberal Member for Lyons

Guy Barnett, Minister for Primary Industries and Water 24 September 2020

TASMANIAN GOVERNMENT MEDIA RELEASE

Shane Broad wrong on potatoes

Reissued

Shane Broad's ability to mislead and pretend the sky is falling clearly knows no bounds.

To be clear for Mr Broad, the Chief Plant Health Manager approved a conditional exemption to import potatoes from a South Australian company in June this year.

This decision was made due to SA being free of two specific diseases that are the subject of current import requirements, and is consistent with agreed terms of biosecurity risk management and trade.

And as Dr Broad should know, trade between States is not unusual.

Representatives from Biosecurity Tasmania have also met with a number of growers this morning and will continue to work with the industry to ensure our strong biosecurity standards are upheld.

Tasmanian high-quality potatoes are readily available and highly sought after. I encourage Tasmanians to continue to buy locally grown potatoes from our supermarkets, fruit and vegetable grocers, markets and stores right across Tasmania.

The Tasmanian Liberal Government is the strongest supporter of our agricultural sector, which is why we have consistently delivered additional funding for biosecurity to reduce the potential for risks to the community.

Biosecurity is essential to Tasmania's agricultural productivity, continued market access, and our reputation for high-quality primary products.