

12 November 2019

Dear Madam/Sir,



Re: Proposed Sydney Fish Market (SFM) development at Blackwattle Bay

The Master Fish Merchants' Association of Australia (MFMA) is a not for profit organisation established in the 1930's that represents businesses in the post-harvest sector of the seafood industry. The MFMA's membership includes some 150 businesses in New South Wales which operate as seafood retailers and wholesalers.

I am writing this letter in support of the proposed new Sydney Fish Market (SFM) development at Blackwattle Bay. The MFMA see the development of the new SFM as being of critical importance to the post-harvest sector and the wider seafood industry in NSW. The proposed new SFM development will address critical short comings found at the current site, while importantly maintaining a centrally located, single site for post-harvest businesses to access seafood products through both an open and transparent auction, as well as independent on-site wholesalers.

The MFMA anticipate that the proposed new SFM development will benefit the post-harvest sector through:

- The inclusion of more efficient temperature and atmosphere controls for the auction floor which is crucial in terms of maximising product quality and shelf life.
- Improved loading dock functionality through the introduction of mechanised material handling systems aimed at facilitating more efficient vehicle access and egress.
- Significantly improved safety for seafood merchants and the public resulting from the separation of visitor parking and operational loading activities of seafood merchants during the morning auction.
- Improved visibility of auction activities to foster greater public awareness and understanding of the seafood industry.

We expect the proposed new SFM development at Blackwattle Bay to deliver a world-class facility for both seafood industry participants and the general public. If you would like to discuss any issues regarding the post-harvest sector of the seafood industry please do not hesitate to contact me at our office on 02 9552 1611 or 0421 017 802.

Yours sincerely,

Mr James Michael Kitchener
Executive Officer
The Master Fish Merchants' Association of Australia