3. How will you (or your party) work to safeguard Australia's farm sector from future supply chain disruptions?

Background: Agricultural supply chains stretch deep into global markets, enabling Australian farmers to sell their produce across the world. Recent turbulence in the global economy has disrupted many of these supply chains. Export and critical input supply chains, such as fuel, fuel additives, agricultural chemicals and fertilisers, almost came to a grinding halt in 2021. These near misses threatened to have a profound impact on Australia's economy and society. Action is needed as Australia transitions to a 'new normal' for international trade and supply chains. Australia needs a collective government-industry civil society approach to establishing robust contingencies for the next inevitable supply chain disruption, and a strategy for domestic manufacturing strategy for highly-vulnerable critical inputs.

RESPONSE:
. How will you (or your party) support farmers to access the
elecommunications services needed to grow their businesses?
Background: Australia's farm sector has a vision to be Australia's next \$100 billion dollar industry by 2030. Achieving this vision requires significant innovation — including in how we connect regional Australians to critical telecommunications services. Economic modelling has found that adoption of digital agriculture can add an estimated \$20.3 billion to farm output, and lift the Australian economy by an estimated 1.5% (\$24.6 billion) by 2030. Of course, ealising this potential requires adequate connectivity for farms — regardless of how remote hey are.
RESPONSE:

5. How will you (or your party) arm farmers with the information and tools needed to respond to a changing climate and to participate in carbon markets?

Background: Climate change will play a major role in Australian agriculture's next decade, exacerbating climate risk while creating diverse new income opportunities. The VFF supports an economy-wide aspiration of net zero emissions by 2050 provided:

- there are identifiable and economically viable pathways to net neutrality, including impacts from inputs such as energy; and
- Commonwealth and State legislation is effective, equitable and helps deliver onground programs that benefit agricultural interests and do not create unnecessary regulatory impediments.

RESPONSE:			