

SENATOR THE HON STEPHEN CONROY

SENATOR FOR VICTORIA



24 May 2016

Dr Rosemary Laing Clerk of the Senate Parliament House CANBERRA ACT 2600

By email: <u>Clerk.Sen@aph.gov.au</u>

Dear Clerk

I refer to material seized by the Australian Federal Police following the execution of search warrants on 19 May 2016 at my office in Treasury Place, Melbourne and at the home of a staff member, which material I understand is securely held in your office pending the determination of the claim.

For the purpose of paragraph 6.11 of the AFP National Guideline for Execution of Search Warrants where Parliamentary Privilege may be involved, I have notified the AFP that I am maintaining my claim for parliamentary privilege over the seized material and that I intend to seek a ruling from the Senate on the claim.

As the Senate is currently dissolved and the office of President vacated, please accept this letter to you as the commencement of action to seek a ruling from the Senate on the claim of privilege. I would be grateful if you could arrange to have this matter placed before the Senate when it is reconstituted.

Yours sincerely

Senator the Hon. Stephen Conroy Shadow Minister for Defence

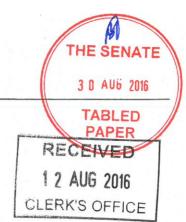
Deputy Leader of the Opposition in the Senate

Senator for Victoria



SENATOR THE HON STEPHEN CONROY

SENATOR FOR VICTORIA



12 August 2016

Dr Rosemary Laing Clerk of the Senate Parliament House CANBERRA ACT 2600

By email: clerk.sen@aph.gov.au

Dear/Clerk Mary

I refer to material seized by the Australian Federal Police following the execution of search warrants on 19-20 May 2016 at my office in Treasury Place, Melbourne, and at the home of a staff member, which is held in your office pending the determination of my privilege claim.

In addition to executing those warrants, it has been reported that the AFP searched the offices of NBN Co Limited and interviewed several of its employees. I believe that the AFP may have acquired copies of the material seized from my office and the home of a staff member, over which a privilege claim has been made, as a result of these additional searches. It has also been speculated that the AFP accessed telecommunications data and intercepted other telecommunications in relation to this investigation.

I believe that these additional inquiries may have captured words spoken, and acts done, in the course of, or for the purposes of, or incidental to, parliamentary proceedings. Accordingly, I claim parliamentary privilege in relation to all material obtained by either the AFP or NBN Co Limited as a result of those inquiries. I wish to seek a ruling from this Senate on this claim, in addition to the matter I brought to your attention on 24 May 2016.

As the new Senate is yet to meet and the office of President is vacant, I ask you to please accept this letter to you as the commencement of action to seek a ruling from the Senate on my privilege claim. I would be grateful if you could arrange to have this matter placed before the Senate when it next meets.

Yours sincerely,

Senator the Hon. Stephen Conroy

Deputy Leader of the Opposition in the Senate

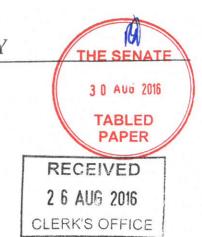
Shadow Special Minister of State

Shadow Minister for Sport

Senator for Victoria

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26 August 2016

Dr Rosemary Laing Clerk of the Senate Parliament House CANBERRA ACT 2600

By email: Clerk.Sen@aph.gov.au

Dear Clerk

I refer to the claim of parliamentary privilege made in relation to material the Australian Federal Police seized from the Department of Parliamentary Services at Parliament House on Wednesday 24 August 2016, which I understand is securely held in your office pending the determination of the claim.

For the purpose of paragraph 6.11 of the AFP National Guideline for Execution of Search Warrants where Parliamentary Privilege may be involved, I have notified the AFP that I am maintaining my claim for parliamentary privilege over the seized material and that I intend to seek a ruling from the Senate on the claim.

As the Senate is currently dissolved and the office of President vacated, please accept this letter to you as the commencement of action to seek a ruling from the Senate on the claim of privilege. I would be grateful if you could arrange to have this matter placed before the Senate when it is reconstituted.

Yours sincerely

Senator the Hon. Stephen Conroy

Deputy Leader of the Opposition in the Senate

Shadow Special Minister of State

Shadow Minister for Sport

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Senator for Victoria

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