

Hi Godwin,

It is good to hear from you. Apologies for my tardiness but things have been hectic at work and at home. We have had relatives staying with us for the past few weeks which has taken a lot of our spare time.

I hope all is well with you. I know what you mean about Treasury. I watched Ken Henry on TV at Senate Estimates. He is overtly political and will have to wear the consequences. Bernie Fraser comes to mind now when I think of Ken.

Watching WA State politics up close is really nowhere anywhere nearly as exciting as Federal politics. I have been watching MT closely and think that he is performing extremely well. _____ was visiting recently and we spoke at length about MT being able to really turn the Labor mismanagement of the global financial crisis into a strong positive for us. I doubt even Peter Costello could have made the issue so difficult for Rudd.

On the issue of staff, while I think _____ would be awesome for MT, I am quite sure his preference _____ This would benefit everyone especially if MT won and then _____ would slot into PM&C.

_____ would be a very good investment. Though I think you could easily do the job as well. I think MT would welcome you with open arms if you wanted to work with him and I am sure he would place you in a very senior role. My view is that you could be both a strategic and economic adviser for MT but you would have to really want to do it. I know MT holds you in extremely high regard and treats you with absolute respect. When you work directly for someone then those relationship things can change. Let me know because I will talk to him if you are keen.

As for _____ he is in _____ with AusAid for another 2 years but he would do it if he was back in Australia.

_____ is keen but only from March 2009 onwards. _____ is first class. He has worked at senior levels in Finance and Tsy. He knows the Budget, he knows economics and he knows taxation. He is also extremely sound politically.

_____ probably committed here for a while yet. But who knows what lies out there in terms of 'what comes next'. _____ With all this going on I am

If you have some time we should try and have a telephone chat over the weekend. Saturday or Sunday afternoons are usually best for me.

All the best,

From: Grech, Godwin [mailto:Godwin.Grech@TREASURY.GOV.AU]
Sent: Thursday, 6 November 2008 4:30 PM
To:
Subject: Staffing [SEC=PERSONAL]
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Staffing

I trust that you and the family are doing well. I think of you often.

I have been quite busy here - they roped me in to work on the bank guarantee debacle about a month ago. Treasury is not the same place that you left 7 or 8 years ago! Very political.

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Anyway, I have certainly been doing my best to help out; I think you know what I mean.

I spoke with T the other night. He has been having difficulty getting staff - especially on the economic side.

He asked me if I had any suggestions. I have been trying to encourage to join him. T is keen, . Is procrastinating, although I remain confident that he will join after Christmas.

I have also been keen for to take up the COS role - T is keen, but as you know is trying out for the which I expect he will get.

T is very keen to get you on board - but appreciates the constraints in light of your business commitments. He said he was hoping to get you on board about 6 months before the election.

The only good person I could think of for T was but he is OS.

I have been working to encourage to stay. Not sure what his longer term plans are.

As I have told T - he must get a strong COS and a solid Policy Director. or ; would be ideal.

What do you think about that other bloke in Treasury that was at that dinner in February this year? I honestly don't know him.

As for me, I think T sees me being of more value where I am (albeit at considerable personal risk for me). We have never discussed the possibility of me making the move.

It would be good to catch up when you can.

Godwin
6 November 2008

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