



**Government Response**  
**to the**  
**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
*Annual reports (No. 2 of 2009)*

**September 2011**

**Government Response to the Report of the Senate Finance and Public  
Administration Legislation Committee:  
*Annual reports (No. 2 of 2009)***

**Recommendation 1**

The committee recommends that the Australian Industry Development Corporation ensure that its next annual report fulfils the requirements of section 8 of the *Freedom of Information Act 1982*.

**Response**

The subsequent Annual Reports (Reports) of the Australian Industry Development Corporation (AIDC) comply with the Committee's recommendation. The Reports provide information on procedures for Freedom of Information requests to AIDC and on the relevant categories of documents. The Reports also note that because the Corporation is in the wind down phase there are no decision-making powers that affect the public. The wind down was completed by a Proclamation repealing the *Australian Industry Development Corporation Act 1970* on 22 April 2011.

**Recommendation 2**

The committee recommends that where a Commonwealth authority or company pays for the services of a 'related entity' company, the annual report should include an explanation of the decision-making process to engage that company.

**Response**

The Committee's recommendation is agreed. The *Commonwealth Authorities (Annual Reporting) Orders 2011* and the *Commonwealth Companies (Annual Reporting) Orders 2011* respectively provide for the annual reports of Commonwealth authorities and wholly-owned Commonwealth companies to disclose the decision making processes undertaken for approval of individual or aggregate transactions of at least \$10,000 (GST inclusive), where a director of the Commonwealth entity is also a director of the other entity that provides the good or service or receives the grant. For the purposes of the annual reports these provisions are to apply from the 2012-13 financial year.