

SUBMISSION 5



13-04-2004

The Enquiry Secretary
 J.S.C.N.C. & E.T.
 Parliament House
 CANBERRA ACT 2600
 Australia

Dear Sirs and Mesdames,

Given the blatant bias, half-truths, and the cynical pursuit of the Committee's own agenda as set out in part one of your report, I shall not go into any detail about how Norfolk Island might manage its financial affairs better; I do not expect that you will take the slightest notice of the opinions of any but your stable of pusillanimous agents of influence who hide behind a cloak of anonymity. Therefore, a few brief suggestions:

1. Have the Norfolk Island Government increase its import duty on luxury items for home use or consumption.
2. Privatise the N.I. Government enterprises that are not run efficiently, whilst ensuring that the N.I. Government has enough legislative control to prevent excessive profiteering.
3. Grant the N.I. Government the right to lease the fishing and oil exploration rights in our 200-mile EEZ.
4. Lift the undemocratic restrictions the Commonwealth Government has placed on our university.
5. Help, rather than obstruct, the N.I. Government to establish Norfolk Island as an offshore financial centre.
6. Convince the Commonwealth Government to ablate the \$3 million loan advanced for fixing the Cascade cliff. According to a 1926 Commonwealth report, this job should have been done by the Commonwealth back in 1926.
7. As the Commonwealth of Australia regards our airport as highly strategic, let the Commonwealth Government pay in full for all upgrades.
8. Put an end to the seemingly endless parade of Australian Parliamentary Select, Joint and Standover Committees sent to Norfolk Island to harass the local people and the **elected** Government of Norfolk Island. They cost us a great deal of our money with no benefit to us, just a lot of frustration.

Ric Robinson, M.L.A.