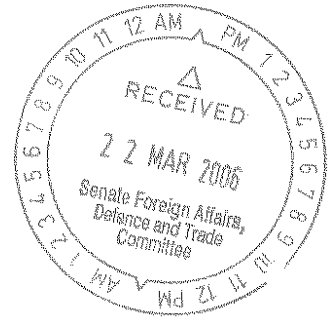




**Australian Government**  
**Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade**



16 March 2006

Dr Kathleen Dermody  
Committee Secretary  
Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee  
Department of the Senate  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Dr Dermody

I write to clarify evidence given by me at the Senate Additional Estimates hearing on Thursday 16 February 2006. This evidence concerned the notices to produce documents received by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) from the Inquiry into certain Australian companies in relation to the UN Oil-for-Food Program (the Inquiry).

In answer to a question from Senator Faulkner regarding the first notice to produce received by DFAT on 1 December (page FAD&T 33 of *Proof Hansard* 16 February 2006), I stated that this notice covered material relevant to the Inquiry in relation to three companies, namely, AWB, Rhine Ruhr Pty Limited and Alkaloids Australia Pty Limited. I would like to clarify that the first notice to produce was only in relation to AWB. However, at the time we received this notice, DFAT agreed with the solicitors assisting the Inquiry that in the course of searching for AWB documents, we would also search for documents relating to Rhine Ruhr and Alkaloids.

Senator Faulkner asked when the first notice to produce was complied with (page FAD&T 33 of *Proof Hansard* 16 February 2006). I would like to clarify that the initial deadline for responding to the first notice to produce was 9 December 2005. DFAT sought and received an extension of this deadline until 22 December 2005. The notice was complied with by DFAT by this revised deadline.

In response to Senator Faulkner's question whether DFAT received one or more notices subsequent to the original notice to produce (page FAD&T 33 of *Proof Hansard* 16 February 2006), I stated that if I recalled correctly, the second notice received by DFAT related to the Tigris issue and that the third notice was more broad and related to BHP. I have rechecked the terms of the second and third notices and would like to clarify that the second notice relates to the Rhine Ruhr and Alkaloids companies and the third covers documents relating to the Tigris Petroleum Corporation Pty Limited and BHP.

Yours sincerely

  
Chris Moraitis  
Senior Legal Adviser  
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade