Attachment A

EXTRACT FROM LETTER TO SENATOR BROWN
(tabled at Supplementary Budget Estimates)

... In respect of materials used by Landscape Services, the following table outlines quantities and toxicity levels of chemicals used this year, to 30 October 2003.

INSECTICIDE/HERBICIDE USAGE RATES FOR 2003 TO DATE			
Trade Name	Active Ingredient/s	Quantity	Toxicity to birds
Choice	Fipronil	10 kg	Very Low
Kamba M	MCPA/Dicamba	1.7 l	Very Low
Malathion	Maldison	3.6 l	Low
Merit	Imidicloprid	7.175 l	Very Low
Spearhead	MCPA/Clopyralid/Diflufenican	140 ml	Very Low
Glyphosate	Glyphosate	10.257 ltr	Very Low
Simazine	Simazine	260 ml	Very Low
Avid	Abamectin	102.5 ml	Very Low
Snail Bait	Methiocarb	15.75 kg	Low
Fusilade	Fluazifop-P-Butyl	300 ml	Very Low
Rogor	Dimethoate	610 ml	Moderate
Brush Off	Metsulfuron Methyl	5 ml	Very Low
Pirimor	Pirimicarb	10 g	Very Low
Ronstar Granules	Oxadiazon	87.87 kg	Very Low
Carbaryl	Carbaryl	1.220 l	Moderate

FURTHER INFORMATION FOR THE COMMITTEE—
Use of Pesticides at Parliament House

Chemicals used in Parliament House and its precincts are used under advice from the University of Western Sydney (UWS) with regard to landscape areas and the University of Technology Sydney (UTS) for application generally inside the building.

The Landscape Services group have been progressively implementing an integrated pest management (IPM) program since 1991, with the aim of totally removing the need for chemical control of landscape pests by 2006. While this worthy goal may not be totally achievable, it is important to note that use of chemical control of insect pests has been reduced by some 88% since 1991. Further reductions will occur as the IPM program proceeds. Close liaison and the development of partnership programs with UWS and CSIRO have aided this work.

The continuing use of chemicals to control the Bogong moth mitigates against complete success in the IPM project as the chemicals used are external to the building and impact on insect populations being encouraged as part of the IPM project. Physical barriers to deny the Bogong access to the building are being continuously put in place and the use of chemicals supplements this physical proofing program.

The spraying program also acts to control spiders and ants. The extensive gardens surrounding Parliament House provide ready access to the building for those pests. The IPM project has not yet developed to the stage where a coordinated strategy to manage all pests of Parliament House and its precincts is available and effective.

During 2004, it is proposed to seek the joint assistance of the two universities (and CSIRO, if available) to develop such a coordinated pest control strategy. Whilst the two advisory bodies have been effective in their separate endeavours, a joint approach to the total problem should enable a more comprehensive pest management plan to be developed, which would avoid the inconsistencies in two separate approaches.

Currently UTS advises on and monitors the use of pesticides in the building. The persons who visit Parliament House and inspect and audit procedures are Associate Professor Dr Peter Miller and Mr Bryce Peters.

In respect of the landscape, the Beneficial Bug Co advises on and audits the IPM program. This company is an associated commercial enterprise that grew out of a UWS research unit and it still has access to UWS systems, expertise and research staff. The principal contact at the Beneficial Bug Co is Mr Andy Ryland (M. Horticultural Science).

This use of technical experts is aimed at implementation of effective pest management techniques with a minimal impact on the environment.

Attachment B

Chemicals used to control pests in Parliament House.

The following table outlines the agents and quantities used by Capital Pest Control on behalf of Facilities Management for pest control during 2002/2003. The hazardous nature of the agents is classified according to Worksafe Australia criteria and recorded on the Material Safety Data Sheets issued by ChemWatch.

INSECTICIDE USAGE RATE 2002/2003				
Trade Name	Active Ingredient	Quantity	Hazardous Nature	Internal/External Usage
BOC Pestigas	Pyrethrum	54kg	Not Hazardous	Internal
Aventis Cropscience Golaith Cockroach Gel	Fipronil	420gm	Not Hazardous	Internal
Cislin Residual Insecticide (Diluted 150ML/10L)	Cis-deltamethrin	4L (Concentrate)	Not Hazardous (Toxicity to birds is Very Low)	External
Cislin Residual Insecticide (Diluted 75ML/10L)	Cis-deltamethrin	5L (Concentrate)	Not Hazardous	Internal
Talon Rodenticide Wax Blocks	Brodifacoum	Internal 300 External 350	Hazardous	Internal & External
Pest Control Technologies Ditrac All-Weather Blox	Brodifacoum	86	Hazardous	Internal, Basement Sewerage Pits