

30 September 2005

Committee Secretary  
Parliamentary Joint Committee on Corporations and Financial Services  
Department of the Senate  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600  
Australia



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Dear Sir / Madam

Re: Australian Conservation Foundation – Submission to the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Corporations and Financial Services Inquiry into Corporate Responsibility.

I am writing to draw the committee's attention to an exchange of letters between the Australian Conservation Foundation (ACF) and Transurban on errors in the ACF's submission to the Committee. Regrettably, the ACF refuses to accept that it has misrepresented the facts.

On page 5 of its submission, dated 14 September, 2005 the ACF said:

"The negotiation of contracts by companies that constrain the ability of governments to take responsible environmental action. One example is Transurban's negotiation of an indemnity that effectively prevents Victoria from constructing a rail line from Melbourne to the Melbourne Airport, which would compete with Transurban's more polluting road connection."

**ACF Submission 14/9/05, page 5**

On 28 September, Transurban wrote to the ACF and the Committee saying that the statement quoted above was incorrect and pointing out that there is no such "indemnity". The ACF responded in a letter dated 28 September, 2005.

The ACF's letter takes four pages trying to justify its original statement to the Committee. The letter fails. The ACF's original statement is incorrect and not justified by the facts.

We have attached our response to the ACF dated 30 September 2005 and request that the Committee publicly post it, or this letter on the Joint Committee's website along with the other submissions received.

Should you have questions regarding this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me on 03 9612 6999.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Mike Roberts'.

Mike Roberts  
General Manager Corporate Relations and Strategic Marketing

cc Mr Charles Berger, Australian Conservation Foundation