Attachment C

Letter from Queensland Deputy Crown Solicitor to the Chair, ECITA Committee – re Dr Williams

9 March 2007



Crown Solicitor

9 March 2007

Chairman
Senate Standing Committee on the Environment,
Communications Information Technology and the Arts
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Attention: Mr I Holland

Dear Senator Eggleston

Allegations of harassment of a witness appearing before the Senate Standing Committee on the Environment, Communications Information Technology and the Arts

Further to my letter of 1 March 2007 sent to you in relation to allegations of harassment made by an employee of the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service ("QPWS"), Mr David Green, against Mr Clive Cook, the Director of the QPWS in Cairns, additional letters raising fresh allegations of similar harassment of another QPWS officer have been directed to Mr Cook and Mr Geoff Meadows, a senior officer of the QPWS in Cairns. See: Letter, Eggleston to Cook, 2 March 2007; Letter, Eggleston to Meadows, 2 March 2007.

As in the case of Mr Green, these fresh allegations by Dr PR Williams are said to relate to evidence given to the Senate Standing Committee on the Environment, Communications Information Technology and the Arts ("the Committee") in June 2006.

In response, I would reiterate the seriousness with which QPWS and the Environmental Protection Agency are treating these allegations, and confirm that both agencies wish to fully cooperate with the Committee.

With this in mind, I renew the request made in the letter of 1 March 2007 in relation to Mr Green's allegations against Mr Cook, and ask you to provide the exact terms of the allegations made by Dr Williams against both Mr Cook and Mr Meadows. In particular, what interventions in supervision and oversight arrangements might have "suggested" manager dissatisfaction; and what "hostile treatment" occurred during a promotion process in December 2006?

In this regard, you will appreciate that neither Mr Cook nor Mr Meadows agree with the construction placed on events by Mr Green and Dr Williams, insofar as that construction can be understood at all. Further, Mr Cook and Mr Meadows are entitled to know the terms of the allegations made against them so that they can offer a considered and meaningful response to the requests made in your letters of 2 March 2007.



With respect, the present generalised allegations attributed to Dr Williams are more suggestive of perception than of objective fact, and are not susceptible to the making of a considered and meaningful response.

I look forward to receiving particulars of the allegations levelled against Mr Cook and Mr Meadows.

Yours faithfully

RW Campbell

Deputy Crown Solicitor EXW023/2171:1485750