

17th August 2004

Dr Sarah Bachelard

Committee Secretary
Senate Economics Legislation Committee
Room SG.64
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Dr Bachelard

Re: Post 2005 Strategic Investment Program Review

We are a manufacturer of textile filter media located in Melbourne employing approximately 70 staff in the weaving, and fabrication of products.

As an early balancing entity we are currently developing our Business Plans and Budgets for 2005 and beyond in conjunction with our parent Gamma Holdings, a multinational company listed in the Netherlands.

The current SIP has been looked upon very favourably over the past 5 years in terms of investment in qualifying capital and R&D investment to the Australian operation from our parent company. This has secured employment levels and assisted in new technologies being developed in Australia and subsequently exported globally.

Unfortunately with the current uncertainty surrounding the post 2005 SIP proposal the prospect of continued new investment and upgrading of technologies in Australia is under a cloud. If we are not able to present a strong case for future business plans in the Australian operation, under-pinned by a post 2005 SIP, our parent is very likely to re-direct investment to other global operations. This would be at a detriment to Australian based jobs, potential exports and world class manufacturing in Australia.

We therefore strongly support the passing of the two Bills required to enact the post 2005 SIP and associated Tariff Reductions without further delay.

Regards

Madison Filter Pty Ltd

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