



The  
Institution of Engineers,  
Australia

**OFFICE OF THE PAST NATIONAL PRESIDENT**

3<sup>rd</sup> June 2003

The Secretary,  
Senate Employment, Workplace Relations  
and Education References Committee  
Suite SG.52, Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Sir/Madam,

I have been a member of the Prime Minister's Science, Engineering & Innovation Council (PMSEIC) since 1999, representing The Institution of Engineers Australia (known as Engineers Australia). More particularly I have represented Engineers Australia in my capacities as Deputy National President (1999), National President (2000 & 2001) and Past National President (representing National Presidents Dr Peter Greenwood and currently Mr Doug Jones).

I understand that I joined PMSEIC at the same meeting that Dr Robin Batterham took up his appointment as Chief Scientist, so I have witnessed his activities at PMSEIC throughout his term of office to date. These activities have included his involvement in the Standing Committee and certain Working Groups of PMSEIC, as well as numerous gatherings of the profession over the years.

From my personal experience and observation, I can attest to the dedication, integrity and impartiality that Dr Batterham has exhibited at all times.

Moreover, his commercial affiliation was neither concealed nor promoted by him or by anybody else. To have a person in the role of Chief Scientist who is also a senior industry practitioner, should be seen as a bonus in terms of his up-to-date knowledge, as well as his credibility and respect within industry and academia, at both a national and an international level.

I was delighted when Dr Batterham accepted a second term in office, and I believe that he has done much to advance the opportunities for, and recognition of, Australia's scientists and engineers.

Yours faithfully,

Dr Martin Cole, HonFIEAust, CPEng  
Past National President