

Classification : SEC=UNCLASSIFIED

Dr Kathleen Dermody
Committee Secretary
Senate Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence & Trade
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Dr Dermody

Inquiry into the Provisions of the Australian Participants in British Nuclear Tests (Treatment) Bill 2006; and the Australian Participants in British Nuclear Tests (Treatment) (Consequential Amendments & Transitional Provisions) Bill 2006

The Chief of Staff has asked me to reply to you on his behalf in relation to your invitation to the AFP to make a submission to this Inquiry.

The AFP was not aware of this Inquiry or the development of this legislative package to provide cancer testing and treatment for eligible Australian participants in British nuclear tests conducted in Australia.

The AFP can confirm that Commonwealth Police and Australian Protective Service Officers, both organisations which are now part of the AFP, did serve at Maralinga from the completion of the tests until 2001. The AFP and Comcare are currently dealing with one worker's compensation case related with this service which one of these officers has raised with us. Because this claim is not yet determined I am not in a position to advise whether *Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988* provisions will apply to these officers or not. In these circumstances it is not possible to comment further on this case as it is under active consideration.

Yours sincerely

Peter Whowell

PETER WHOWELL
MANAGER LEGISLATION PROGRAM
CHIEF OF STAFF PORTFOLIO
Tel +61(0) 2 62757467 Ext 167467 Fax +61(0) 2 62757322
www.afp.gov.au