



PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Submission to Inquiry

26th August 2005

Committee Secretary
Senate Finance and Public Administration Committee
Department of the Senate
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600
Australia

Dear Committee Secretary

RE Inquiry into the Regional Partnerships Program

I would like to draw to the attention of Committee Members a number of contradictions and anomalies in the evidence given to the Inquiry into the Regional Partnerships Program by Mr Greg Maguire.

I have gone through Mr Maguire's handwritten evidence and have set out on the following pages some of these contradictions.

Mr Maguire appears to be confused and vague over times, dates and content of conversations and meetings despite them relating directly to him and his involvement in the case.

I would hope that Mr Maguire's refusal to comply with the Committee's request to supply information even though he had agreed to do so will be viewed very dimly by the Committee and dealt with in an appropriate manner by the Committee under the powers that the Committee has to deal with such unco-operative witnesses.

Yours sincerely

Tony Windsor MP
Member for New England

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Mr Maguire said

“Mr Windsor is also aware that my companies have made substantial financial contributions to his political campaigns over the years.”

Response from Tony Windsor MP

I am not aware of any ‘substantial financial contributions’ as Mr Maguire has not made any contributions to any of my election campaigns either State or Federal.

I am very happy to make my campaign records available to the Committee.

To my knowledge, Mr Maguire has been requested by the Committee to provide evidence of substantial donations. Failure to do so could be considered contempt of the Senate.

Senator O'BRIEN—Did all of those meetings and telephone conversations occur as contained in the sworn evidence of Mr Hall?

Mr Maguire—Without rereading it that is a hard question to answer, to be very frank. But on the document that I read that was sent to me by the Senate the phone conversation and the meeting on 19th were correct.

Senator O'BRIEN—And the subsequent conversations around the time of the Federal Police conducting interviews? I want to know if the conversations that he said took place did take place.

Mr Maguire—I spoke to Mr Hall when Mr Windsor was going public. I do not deny that. At the end of the day this whole thing is about Tony Windsor promoting Tony Windsor. I do not deny speaking to Mr Hall.

Senator O'BRIEN—So we can accept that those conversations took place at the time alleged by Mr Hall?

Mr Maguire—Yes.

Response from Tony Windsor MP

Mr Maguire agrees that he spoke with Mr Stephen Hall as set out by Mr Hall in his sworn evidence at the time that I went public in September 2004.

Mr Maguire—My conversations with Mr Hall were purely along the lines that this was a total destructive approach by Mr Windsor. Now remember something here: this guy was my friend; this guy was a mate of mine. I think this has been lost in all of this. My conversations with Mr Hall were purely along the lines of saying to him that they are jeopardising the chance of us getting funding—the publicity would jeopardise everything and it was just not sensible to do that.

Response from Tony Windsor MP

Why was it destructive if Greg Maguire knew nothing of the offer?

How could the mention of an un-named “intermediary” and un-named “political players” be destructive in relation to the funding of an equine centre? That could only be the case if the “intermediary” and “political players” actually knew that they were the ones being referred to.

Mr Maguire

I actually brought up the subject with Mr Anderson that he had created his own problem, and we talked about that for 20 minutes. I brought that subject up and it was discussed.

Response from Tony Windsor MP

Mr Maguire admits to discussing me with John Anderson at their meeting contrary to what Mr Anderson initially told the Parliament and then later recanted and admitted to upon further questioning in the Parliament.

The following is the Hansard of a number of Questions without notice answered by Mr Anderson in relation to me.

18th November 2004

Mr LATHAM (2.00 p.m.)—My question is to the Deputy Prime Minister and acting Minister for Trade. At his meetings with Mr Greg Maguire prior to 19 May 2004, was the possibility of the member for New England pursuing a career outside parliament ever discussed? Were diplomatic and trade appointments mentioned in these discussions?

The SPEAKER—I regret to say to the Leader of the Opposition that I do not think that falls within the Deputy Prime Minister's responsibility on his area of public administration.

Mr LATHAM—It is a question that is in the same framework as the question you allowed in order yesterday, Mr Speaker. I have asked it to the acting Minister for Trade about the offer of diplomatic and trade appointments in discussions that relate to Mr Anderson.

The SPEAKER—The question is in order. The Deputy Prime Minister and acting Minister for Trade.

Mr ANDERSON—I thank the honourable member for his question. The answer is no and no.

18th November 2004

Mr LATHAM (2.06 p.m.)—My question is to the Deputy Prime Minister and acting Minister for Trade. At any stage during his meetings with Mr Greg Maguire prior to 19 May—meetings where it is alleged trade appointments were considered—did the Deputy Prime Minister ask his adviser, Wendy Armstrong, to leave the room so that a sensitive political matter could be discussed? What was that matter?

Mr ANDERSON—No, I did not ask my adviser to leave the room because there was a sensitive matter to be discussed. The purpose of the meeting, which was to discuss the equine centre, was concluded and Mr Maguire wanted to show me over his quite extraordinary collection of motorcycles, which is what he did, in that magnificent museum. To those of you who travel through Tamworth, I recommend that you stop and have a look at it.

15th March 2005

Mr WINDSOR—My question is to the Deputy Prime Minister. Deputy Prime Minister, in evidence to the Senate inquiry into regional partnerships, Greg Maguire admitted under oath that, several days after meeting with the Deputy Prime Minister for 90 minutes, he said to me:

You—

meaning me—

should roll over and talk to the Liberal or National parties.

You could write your own deal.

You could probably do whatever you wanted, even an overseas posting.

There would be jobs for the boys.

Go and talk to John Anderson.

Did you, Deputy Prime Minister, discuss my political future with Greg Maguire on 13 May 2004?

Mr ANDERSON—I thank the honourable member for his question. As I recall, and as the man in question has indicated, he indicated to me that he felt that you had become an ineffective member for that seat. He indicated, as indeed many members of the Tamworth business community have indicated to me, that they would like to see a change in representation. He himself said all of that in the Senate hearing the other day. So, in that sense, have members of the Tamworth business community talked to me about their representation? Yes. Did I say to him in some form or another that I had some offer to make to you? Very specifically, as I have said endlessly in this place, no I did not.

15th March 2005

BEAZLEY (2.54 p.m.)—My question is to the Deputy Prime Minister and follows the one that was asked of him by the honourable member for New England. Did the Deputy Prime Minister not say to the House on 18 November last year that the reason Ms Wendy Armstrong left the room during the 13 May meeting held with Mr Greg Maguire was so Mr Maguire could show the Deputy Prime Minister his 'quite extraordinary collection of motorcycles'. Why didn't the Deputy Prime Minister tell the House then what he has told the House now: that he and Mr Maguire in fact discussed the political future of the member for New England?

Mr ANDERSON—I thank the honourable member for his question and I say the innuendo and the presumption that goes with that are disgusting and a disgrace. If he has an allegation to make he might first begin by declaring straight up and down whether he has confidence in the Australian Federal Police and the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions who found that there was no case. The direct answer to his question is that there is no conflict whatsoever in terms of the substantive purpose for which I was requested to meet with Mr Maguire to talk about the proposed equine centre. We had a conversation about the matter that was at hand. No inducements were offered. Your implication somehow now that you want to make accusations, that you want to get into the swim of this, first demands that you make clear what your allegation is and whether or not in some way you are casting doubts on the findings of the Australian Federal Police. Later in the meeting—

Honourable members interjecting—

Mr ANDERSON—Yes, we went and looked at motorcycles. There is no conflict whatsoever between what I said then and what happened on the night—none.

The SPEAKER—Before calling the next member, I remind the Deputy Prime Minister to address his remarks through the chair.

Mr Maguire

"my legal fees have run into tens of thousands of dollars over that period. Where we are today is that my lawyers helped me prepare my affidavit, which is a very important document. I wrote my opening statement."

Response from Tony Windsor MP

If Mr Maguire had nothing to hide, why did he engage his lawyer's assistance and spend thousands of dollars?

Senator MURRAY—Mr Maguire, I want to take up an interjection that I heard on my right: that there is a fourth prospect. Let us put that straight to you. The fourth prospect is that those three people are lying, in your view.

Mr Maguire—Yes.

Senator MURRAY—Is it your view that they are lying?

Mr Maguire—Yes.

Senator MURRAY—Each of them?

Mr Maguire—Yes.

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Senator CARR—I must say to you that the secretary of his campaign appeared before this committee and did not appear hostile to the National Party. She did not give me the impression that she was a vindictive person. In fact, she was disappointed with the National Party, not hostile. She did think that they basically were not worth a dab of glue—and I agree with her on that—but she did not appear to be personally motivated in this matter. Are you saying that is not the case?

Mr Maguire—I do not know Helen that personally. But I do not believe there would be a bad bone in Ms Tickle's body.

Senator CARR—But you have accused her of being a liar.

Mr Maguire—Yes.

Senator CARR—How do you reconcile those two events?

Mr Maguire—Because I know.

Senator CARR—Sorry? She has not got a bad bone in her body but she is a liar?

Mr Maguire—That is correct. You have a situation here where you have the chairman of Mr Windsor's campaign and the secretary of Mr Windsor's campaign. Mr Windsor has dug a hole and the only way to get out of it and save Mr Windsor's skin is to accuse or bury me. That, simply, is why we are here today.

Response from Tony Windsor MP

Mr Maguire says here that all the witnesses, myself, Stephen Hall and Helen Tickle have all lied but then contradicts himself as he later goes on to say that Ms Tickle doesn't have a bad bone in her body.

Senator CARR—Mr Maguire, in your opening statement you said, 'My companies have made substantial financial donations' to Mr Windsor. What is the extent of those substantial financial donations?

Mr Maguire—I believe they are a private matter.

Senator CARR—Unfortunately, under the laws of this country they are not private.

Mr Maguire—No. You can find them. The Electoral Commission will have documentation on—

Senator CARR—I have had a look at the declarations and I do not see a name on them. I am wondering how that might be.

Mr Maguire—That is because it would be under a company name.

Senator CARR—Which companies?

Mr Maguire—I do not think it is necessary that I sit here before you telling you that I put money into Tony Windsor's campaign. I have said in my opening statement that I have done so.

Senator CARR—Mr Maguire, the reason I have asked you this question is that—

Mr Maguire—You have the statement. You have the New South Wales—

CHAIR—Excuse me, Mr Maguire. Let Senator Carr ask the question.

Senator CARR—You have raised the question. I am not trying to be difficult with you. You have raised this issue. You have stated bluntly in your evidence that you have made substantial financial donations to Mr Windsor. I cannot find them in the declarations. Any donation over \$200 is required by law to be declared. Has there been an error somewhere or have you misled the committee?

Mr Maguire—I have not misled the committee. You do not have the documents there for the New South Wales government.

Senator CARR—I see. That helps me further.

Mr Maguire—Let me have a go. The documents would show that my companies have donated. I also have donated in terms of putting funds into Mr Windsor's campaign under my companies' names. That could be under one of several companies' names and I do not believe it is necessary for me to tell you the names of those companies.

Senator CARR—Are you are saying that you gave support to Mr Windsor while he was a member of the New South Wales parliament?

Mr Maguire—Yes. That is correct.

Senator CARR—So you have not done so while he has been a member of the federal parliament?

Mr Maguire—He has only been elected to the federal parliament once whilst I have been supporting him. I did not support him at the last election.

Senator CARR—That helps me. That accounts for the fact that it is not on the federal declaration. So you made no financial contributions to his campaign.

Mr Maguire—I made no contributions to his—

CHAIR—Order! I think we have been going along quite well. Mr Maguire, you should allow Senator Carr to finish the question and, Senator Carr, you should allow the witness to complete his answer. Sorry, Mr Maguire.

Mr Maguire—I did not make any contributions in 2004 because, if you remember, the election was called after Mr Windsor had decided to cut my head off.

Senator CARR—I see. At what point did the financial contributions you made to Mr Windsor cease? When was the last time you made a substantial financial contribution, as you have said in evidence today?

Mr Maguire—I believe we would have made contributions for the 2001 election.

Senator CARR—The trouble is, I have the returns for the 2001 election before me and I cannot find your name on them. Can you indicate to me how much you donated? Was it less than \$200? That would account for the fact that it is not on the declarations.

Mr Maguire—My recollection is that in 2001 it would have been several thousand dollars.

Senator CARR—Can you recall the companies through which you donated that money?

Mr Maguire—I cannot. I own 37 companies.

Senator CARR—Thirty-seven? Do they all operate in Tamworth?

Mr Maguire—They do not.

Senator CARR—It may have been one of those companies that operated outside Tamworth?

Mr Maguire—Correct.

Senator CARR—And you believe it to be in excess of several thousand dollars?

Mr Maguire—It was not several thousand dollars. Normally I would have given Tony probably anywhere between \$3,000 and \$5,000. The benefit I gave to Tony was in the marketing of his TV campaigns. Before I came along, his strategy and his television campaigns were very amateurish.

Senator CARR—Okay. I am just struck by the evidence you gave to the committee about your companies providing substantial financial donations over and above the media guidance you have provided.

Mr Maguire—I have only had one opportunity in the federal field because Mr Windsor has only been in that parliament for just over one term. I am referring to this: I have made funds available to Mr Windsor's campaigns when he was also in the New South Wales parliament.

Response from Tony Windsor MP

Mr Maguire made no financial contributions to any of my election campaigns at either State or Federal level. In his response to the Committee's request to substantiate his claim he says the Inquiry should get the details from Mr Hall or me. I again welcome any scrutiny of my election campaign records by the Committee should they wish to do so. Mr Maguire's inclusion of a 2004 election campaign television advertisement placement sheet as proof of his contribution is then contradicted in his accompanying letter where he states that payments were made by the Tony Windsor Campaign Fund. His address being on the campaign placement document from NBN television was a leftover from the 2001 campaign as Mr Maguire correctly states his involvement in that campaign for the placement of television advertisements. This was the only campaign in which Mr Maguire assisted in any way.

To quote Mr Maguire— "He (Tony Windsor) has only been elected to the federal parliament once whilst I have been supporting him. I did not support him at the last election.

In his further correspondence to the Committee dated 23rd March 2005, Mr Maguire indicates that he supported me in both 2001 and 2004. Which was it? Mr Maguire did not support my campaign in 2004.

Senator CARR—No, before today I do not recall that being acknowledged. Now this meeting went for an hour and a half or an hour and 40 minutes. I think there are different estimates but it was at least an hour and a half.

Mr Maguire—May I rectify it on that question?

Senator CARR—Yes.

Mr Maguire—If you read my statement, previously I always said that I had had a meeting with the Deputy Prime Minister.

Senator CARR—Okay. During this meeting was Mr Windsor's name mentioned?

Mr Maguire—With the Deputy Prime Minister?

Senator CARR—Yes, Mr Anderson.

Mr Maguire—Yes, it was.

Senator CARR—In what terms was it mentioned?

Mr Maguire—It was brought up by me when I discussed with Mr Anderson that I believed that Mr Windsor was becoming ineffectual.

Senator CARR—What did Mr Anderson say in response to this suggestion of the ineffectual nature of the local member of parliament?

Mr Maguire—He is an interesting guy in the sense that, because I do not know him, he is very quiet. He is quite reserved. The conversation was more about Mr Anderson saying that he could not understand why parts of Australia had gone to Independents. He could not understand why the Tamworth region had encompassed Mr Windsor so strongly. He felt very strongly that the party system was certainly the way to go. He is different to Tony. Tony can become emotional but certainly Mr Anderson is quite reserved. In the meetings I have had with him I have found him quite reserved.

Response from Tony Windsor MP

Mr Maguire confirms that a meeting took place with Mr Anderson at which I was discussed in some detail.

Senator CARR—I am just wondering in terms of the evidence that we have before the committee. Mr Hall tells us that there are a number of telephone conversations between you and him and you have indicated to Senator O'Brien that the evidence that he presents about the dates is right, that on 20 September, as he says, you rang him about a quarter to seven. That is right, isn't it?

Mr Maguire—The dates are around those. I am not sure of the time.

Senator CARR—I take it that, by that time, you had realised that Mr Windsor was not a friend?

Mr Maguire—I had, yes.

Senator CARR—What had led you to that conclusion by 20 September?

Mr Maguire—In conversations that I had, as you know—Mr Hall has already said that I had spoken to him—Mr Hall had told me where Tony was going. I knew at that stage, because Mr Hall had told me, where Tony was going with this thing. I knew.

Senator CARR—At what point had you discovered where Mr Windsor was going with this thing?

Mr Maguire—I do not have the date in front of me, Senator Carr.

Senator CARR—The meeting was on the 19th.

Mr Maguire—But the night he stood up in parliament—

Senator CARR—But that was not until later; that was November.

Mr Maguire—That was November.

Senator CARR—So in November he stands up in parliament, but by September you are calling him—and I understand the standing orders require me not to quote directly from the evidence, so I shall simply say you used an expletive—an amateur and a number of other expressions. So you have discovered by 20 September that he is no longer a friend and that he is an amateur and that you know where he is going. That has nothing to do with the parliamentary—

Response from Tony Windsor MP

Mr Maguire is very confused about the date he was first made aware that he may be named as the intermediary – whether it was in September or November but he agrees that a number of calls were made to Stephen Hall at the time in September.

Senator CARR—You have had no dealings with police investigations at all?

Mr Maguire—Never.

Senator CARR—Do you recall that some time ago the *Armidale Express* placed an advertisement on its front page concerning you? It said, 'A young Armidale businessman has been the subject of some vicious rumours over the past week.' Do you recall that incident?

Mr Maguire—What was the date?

Senator CARR—That was on 2 May 1977.

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Mr Maguire

The rumour went right through the area, and the press picked it up and off it went. The bottom line is that I have never ever been involved in drugs. I have never been investigated.

Response from Tony Windsor MP

The Committee may like to request confidential access to the Australian Federal Police and its predecessors, as well as the National Crime Authority and NSW Police intelligence reports to verify the validity of Mr Maguire's claims.

Mr Maguire—Am I going to tell somebody that at that stage I already know has gone to war with me that I am going to lie?

Senator CARR—I am interested to know when it was that you knew they had gone to war, because it is not clear to me from what you are saying. You are saying it either happened in the parliament, which was much later, in November or it was some time after the election has been called. When was it that you knew he was going to war with you?

Response from Tony Windsor MP

I did not name Mr Maguire until November and yet he is saying I went to war with him in September – how did he know I was referring to him in September if he had no knowledge of meetings and other phone calls.

Senator BROWN—Earlier on, you were talking about a conversation you had with Mr Windsor during which it was tested whether he wanted to roll over. When did that conversation take place? *

Mr Maguire—On the 19th.

Senator BROWN—What did you mean by 'rolling over' and how did you put it to him?

Mr Maguire—The conversation was along these lines: it started out by me saying that I believed he had been ineffectual in terms of the equine centre. It was not happening. He was not able to get that project going. Remember that I was in Mr Windsor's camp originally and it was not until this project, which I was put in charge of, that I started to believe that he was ineffectual. The conversation was in unison with that.

Senator BROWN—The impression I get is that you were saying he was ineffectual because he was an Independent.

Mr Maguire—That was my view.

Senator BROWN—So what did you mean by 'roll over'?

Mr Maguire—I can remember saying to him: 'Look, go and talk to the Liberals. I am sure that they would welcome you with open arms.' That is the track the conversation went down.

Senator BROWN—Did you also say, 'Go and talk to John Anderson'?

Mr Maguire—Yes, I did.

Senator BROWN—You asked this member of parliament to roll over and then you said, 'Go and talk to John Anderson.' Did you indicate what he should talk to John Anderson about?

Mr Maguire—I made this clear earlier on. I told him to talk to John Anderson after quite a bit of the conversation. I could see that it was not going to happen. He was not showing any interest at all in what I was talking about. So I said to him: 'Go and talk to John Anderson. Talk to anyone.' That was the end of the conversation.

Senator BROWN—About what?

Mr Maguire—The conversation was mainly based on the Liberal Party.

Senator BROWN—Talk to John Anderson about what?

Mr Maguire—About wanting to roll over.

Senator BROWN—To what?

Mr Maguire—To go to one of the political parties—and this has happened before—and say: 'It's not working. I will give you the seat of New England.'

Response from Tony Windsor MP

Greg Maguire admits to telling me to talk with John Anderson about my position and that I was not showing any interest in "rolling over".

Senator BROWN—Ms Tickle also said that you said something about, 'They have asked me,' but she could not remember the exact words. The problem I have, Mr Maguire, is that you went from the meeting with the Deputy Prime Minister and Senator Macdonald to a meeting with Mr Windsor and his two campaign officers and you have said yourself that, during that meeting, you asked him to roll over and also to speak to Mr Anderson and others. And we have this evidence from the two other people at the meeting other than Mr Windsor, although he corroborates it, that Senator Macdonald was mentioned directly as having been quoted by you and also that the impression was very clear that, having come from that meeting, you were conveying from Mr Anderson and Senator Macdonald the proposition that Mr Windsor should roll over and that there were diplomatic postings and other opportunities for him if he did so. You can see the coherence in this evidence that is before us.

Mr Maguire—I understand what you are saying.

Response from Tony Windsor MP

Mr Maguire understood Senator Brown's statement about there being 3 witnesses to the conversation with him and that he directly quoted Senator Sandy Macdonald and did not contradict or deny what Senator Brown was concluding.

Senator JOHNSTON—Let us just pause to look at the matter you raised about the radio station. I will just take you to the *Hansard* with respect to what Mr Windsor said. On 18 November, on page 54, he said:

This came about through a conversation I had with a *Sunday Telegraph* journalist called Tony Vermeer.

Mr Maguire—Correct.

Senator JOHNSTON—He then goes to say:

In the conversation with Tony Vermeer I mentioned that only a few months ago I had been approached by an intermediary—
et cetera. Is it your understanding that that is the genesis of the matter, or do you say that something else happened?

Mr Maguire—No, what originally happened was that Tony was doing a radio interview, and he made a throwaway comment on the radio. The radio interviewer said, and I am fairly rough on this, something along the lines of, 'Look, when you held the balance of power in the New South Wales state government'—and so on—'have you been approached or something to put the seat over to one of the other parties?' He made the comment, 'That's happened recently and it's happened before and it'll happen again,' or something.

Senator JOHNSTON—Did you actually hear it on the radio?

Mr Maguire—No, there is documentation. It is in the documentation. Tony Vermeer picked that up from there, and then—

Senator JOHNSTON—When you say there is documentation, what sort of documentation is it?

Mr Maguire—I cannot tell you. I have read it. It is in some document or something.

Response from Tony Windsor MP

The original report was in an article in the *Sunday telegraph* by Tony Vermeer and was then picked up by radio journalists.

Mr Maguire—I have spoken to no journalists.

CHAIR—Because you just said that Tony Vermeer, who wrote the story which I think was in the Sunday paper, got that from the radio interview. How do you know that?

Mr Maguire—Because Tony Windsor told me. Right in the beginning when it happened and before it all blew up, Tony told me that that is where it had come from.

Response from Tony Windsor MP

Greg Maguire also spoke to Robert Wainwright from the Sydney Morning Herald with the story appearing on 24th November 2004

The question that needs answering is why would I tell Greg Maguire about a Sunday telegraph article which referred to an intermediary if the issue had nothing to do with Greg Maguire?

Mr Maguire—I spoke to him two or three times over a five- or six-day period, which I have already been asked about and I said that I did.

Senator BROWN—But, in the lead-up to that ABC news program going to air—

Mr Maguire—I do not know whether that was the same day, but I did speak to him on several occasions, yes.

Senator BROWN—Did you know that that ABC program was going to air before it showed?

Mr Maguire—But the ABC program was not when Mr Windsor announced this.

Senator BROWN—No, but it was not announcing it; it was telling all about it—two different things.

Mr Maguire—No, that is not correct because, if you remember, the night that he stood up in parliament was actually shown on the late news, from what I know.

Senator CARR—No, this is much later.

Mr Maguire—Oh, you are not talking about his original—

Senator CARR—We are talking about September.

Senator BROWN—The 20th.

Mr Maguire—No, I do not remember that conversation.

Senator CARR—Did you ring back when the news was on? Do you ever recall that?

Mr Maguire—When the news was on?

Senator BROWN—Yes, when the program went to air—ABC seven o'clock news.

Mr Maguire—No, I do not remember that, no. But I may have spoken to him around those dates, yes.

Senator BROWN—Do you remember that news broadcast?

Mr Maguire—Which, what, the *7.30 Report*?

Senator BROWN—No, the ABC news on the night of the 20th, on which Mr Windsor was interviewed about this matter.

Mr Maguire—Senator Brown, I think every television station was showing something, so I could have seen it, yes.

Response from Tony Windsor MP

A phone record check would verify that calls were made and when they were made.

Senator O'BRIEN—After Mr Vermeer published his story and before 20 September you had a conversation with Tony Windsor about the fact that the bribe was in the public arena. You had a conversation with Tony Windsor about that.

Mr Maguire—I do not think that we had a specific conversation about it, but I am sure that it was Tony who told me that it was the radio that originally—

Senator O'BRIEN—I think it is pretty important that you are able to tell us about that. It is very important because what you are saying to us is that you had a conversation with Tony Windsor about essentially the bribery allegation before it became public, and that you were involved. That is what you are telling us.

Response from Tony Windsor MP

I have always said that it was the Tony Vermeer story on the Sunday that sparked the radio interest and it was as a result of this Mr Maguire became aware of the situation becoming worried that I would name him then. At that stage I had not named anyone and if he had not done anything to be concerned about he would not have contacted Mr Hall that day.

Senator O'BRIEN—So you had a conversation with Mr Windsor about the allegation. I am wondering why you had the conversation. Your name had not been mentioned publicly. Did it arise in the conversation that your name would be mentioned?

Mr Maguire—Did it arise?

Senator O'BRIEN—Yes.

Mr Maguire—I cannot remember the context of what—

Senator O'BRIEN—Surely you would remember that. That would be the first time, on your evidence, that you knew that Tony Windsor was going to 'burn' you. But you do not remember?

Mr Maguire—I do not remember that date. That is what I am saying to you.

Senator O'BRIEN—But do you remember the conversation?

Mr Maguire—To be honest, no, not fully.

Senator O'BRIEN—But this is the date, the time, when Tony Windsor tells you that your name is going to be mentioned as the person who made the offer. And you do not remember when that occurred?

Mr Maguire—I would have to read my documents.

Senator O'BRIEN—It is not in your affidavit, it is not in your opening statement and it has not been in all of your evidence this afternoon. What you are telling us now is that you do not remember the first time that you heard that you were going to be the person who allegedly made the offer. That is what you are telling us, is it?

Mr Maguire—No. I said earlier on that it was only brought to my attention that when I spoke to Tony originally it was that conversation—and I cannot remember the conversation that far back. But at the end of the day it was, I am sure, Tony that mentioned to me that it was when he commented on the radio that Vermeer had picked it up. I did not know. As I say to you, I cannot remember those details.

Senator O'BRIEN—I find it amazing that, if the conversation indicated to you that you were going to be named as the person—or it was possible that you were going to be named as the person, even if it only when that far—you would not recall that conversation and you would not have done something about it. Convince me that I should take a different view. I am inviting you—

Senator BRANDIS—Point of order.

Senator O'BRIEN—Would you butt out? There is no point of order.

CHAIR—Senator O'Brien has put to you a proposition or a version of the events. He is inviting you to comment on why that would not be the case. I think that is in order.

Response from Tony Windsor MP

Greg Maguire fails to establish the time that I spoke on the phone with him on the night of Sept 20 2004 after he had already spoken with Stephen Hall about the media reports about an 'intermediary' – Greg Maguire knew that he was that intermediary.

Senator O'BRIEN—I have questions on another matter that I want to pursue. Senator Carr asked about donations to Mr Windsor's 2001 campaign. You have effectively declined to nominate the companies that made those donations. Can you tell us whether those companies have complied with the law in declaring the donations?

Mr Maguire—Yes, they would have.

Senator O'BRIEN—You are inviting us to make the searches and identify them rather than you telling us? They are on the public record; searches can be made. I just want to find out why we need to hide behind this—

Mr Maguire—I do not know the company or the name. I do not know that.

CHAIR—Mr Maguire, would you be prepared to give the committee a list of the companies that you own?

Mr Maguire—Yes.

Response from Tony Windsor MP

Mr Maguire agreed to provide details of his companies to the Committee and has not complied indicating that the Committee should get the detail from Stephen Hall or me. Mr Maguire gave the undertaking under oath to supply the Committee with the details and should comply or face the consequences of his action.

A company search of Greg Maguire comes back with Gregory Kevin Maguire and Gregory Kenneth Maguire – same date of birth and same hospital are attached for your information.

Senator CARR—You say that there was a critical point—and I asked questions before about this matter—where you felt that Mr Windsor was going to 'burn' you. I think that was the expression you used.

Mr Maguire—Yes.

Senator CARR—Can you recall the circumstances when you realised that?

Mr Maguire—I am reasonably brain dead after 2½ hours, but I will try. The sin was caused on 19 May. That is when I caused the sin. Why did Mr Windsor wait through May, June, July, August and September? Why did he wait for five or six months? If I had approached him with an offer from the Deputy Prime Minister of Australia, why did he wait? Because no such thing happened. What has happened is very clear. Mr Windsor had dug the hole by making the comment: 'I was approached a few months ago or whatever.' I think he used another chap's name; someone else had approached him earlier on. I think that was in his statement. Nothing happened. Then it was picked up again. It ran further and then I think the Prime Minister got involved and asked him to name names. It goes on from there. That is very easy to see.

Senator CARR—There was a discussion at one of these meetings—I have the date here—where it is alleged that you advised Mr Windsor that there would be no further call for names to be named? Do you recall that conversation? Or was there no such conversation?

Mr Maguire—I made what?

Senator CARR—It has been put to us in evidence that in a telephone conversation on 27 September—

CHAIR—You should advise the witness of whose evidence it is.

Senator CARR—Mr Stephen Hall advised us that on 27 September you rang at 7.30 a.m. and advised that you had spoken to Mr Anderson who had agreed to stop calling for the names.

Mr Maguire—That is totally incorrect.

Senator CARR—It did not happen?

Response from Tony Windsor MP

Mr Hall's evidence is factual on his times and dates whilst Mr Maguire is shaky on dates and times and on this occasion on content but not denying that there had been contact between Mr Hall and Mr Maguire.

Senator CARR—You do not recall the occasion on which you fell out with Mr Windsor?

Mr Maguire—The falling out happened later in the year, when he made the throwaway comment. That is when it started.

Response from Tony Windsor MP

It was September 20 when Mr Maguire contacted Mr Hall as even though I had not named names at that time, Mr Maguire knew that it was he who I was referring to as having offered me a bribe on behalf of the Deputy Prime Minister John Anderson and National Party Senator Sandy Macdonald.

The so-called 'throwaway comment' that Greg Maguire refers to appeared in the Sunday Telegraph on Sept 19 2004.

**Personal Name Extract
Results**

SIC Personal Name Extract		Report Generated: 11 Mar 2005 09:34:58 WST
Original Request		
Current/Historical Search : Historical Search Include Shareholdings : Yes Personal Name : MAGUIRE, GREG KEVIN		
Personal Name Details		
Personal Name Identifier : 10058717 Personal Name : MAGUIRE, GREGORY KENNETH Birth Details : 20/05/1954.....ARMIDALE, NSW Former Name : K, MAGUIRE GREGORY		
Ceased/Former Director Role Held		000364801
Appointment Date : 07/01/1991 Cease Date : 15/08/1990 Organisation in which role was held : BEST WESTERN PROMOTIONS PTY LTD Australian Company Number (ACN) in which role was held : 001 850 264 Organisation Type : Australian Proprietary Company Organisation Status : Deregistered Address : MARIUS STREET, TAMWORTH, NSW, 2340		
Ceased/Former Director Role Held		000363554
Appointment Date : 19/07/1990 Cease Date : 15/08/1991 Organisation in which role was held : LEISURE INDUSTRY FINANCIAL ENTERPRISES PTY LIMITED. Australian Company Number (ACN) in which role was held : 003 422 731 Organisation Type : Australian Proprietary Company Organisation Status : Deregistered Address : MARIUS STREET, TAMWORTH, NSW, 2340		
Personal Name Details		
Personal Name Identifier : 573252 Personal Name : MAGUIRE, GREGORY KEVIN Birth Details : 20/05/1954.....ARMIDALE, NSW Former Name :		
Ceased/Former Director Role Held		
Appointment Date : 27/11/1987 Cease Date : 01/05/1989 Organisation in which role was held : CARRINGBUSH CORPORATION PTY LIMITED Australian Company Number (ACN) in which role was held : 009 812 980 Australian Business Number (ABN) in which role was held : 12 009 812 980 Organisation Type : Australian Proprietary Company Organisation Status : Registered Address : POWER HOUSE MOTOR INN, NEW ENGLAND TAMWORTH, NSW, 2340		
Current Director Role Held		0E8066170 (AR 2002)
Appointment Date : 15/02/1988 Organisation in which role is held : FARLOPLAN PTY LTD Australian Company Number (ACN) in which role is held : 003 444 399 Australian Business Number (ABN) in which role is held : 22 003 444 399 Organisation Type : Australian Proprietary Company Organisation Status : Registered Address : KILLORAN PARK, DUNGOWAN, NSW, 2340		
Current Secretary Role Held		0E8066170 (AR 2002)
Appointment Date : 22/03/2000 Organisation in which role is held : FARLOPLAN PTY LTD		

Australian Company Number (ACN) in which role is held : 003 444 399
Australian Business Number (ABN) in which role is held : 22 003 444 399
Organisation Type : Australian Proprietary Company
Organisation Status : Registered
Address : KILLORAN PARK, DUNGOWAN, NSW, 2340

Current Director Role Held

0E8066124 (AR 2002)

Appointment Date : 29/02/1988
Organisation in which role is held : FINKPINE PTY LTD
Australian Company Number (ACN) in which role is held : 003 440 140
Australian Business Number (ABN) in which role is held : 93 003 440 140
Organisation Type : Australian Proprietary Company
Organisation Status : Registered
Address : KILLORAN PARK, DUNGOWAN, NSW, 2340

Current Secretary Role Held

0E8066124 (AR 2002)

Appointment Date : 22/03/2000
Organisation in which role is held : FINKPINE PTY LTD
Australian Company Number (ACN) in which role is held : 003 440 140
Australian Business Number (ABN) in which role is held : 93 003 440 140
Organisation Type : Australian Proprietary Company
Organisation Status : Registered
Address : KILLORAN PARK, DUNGOWAN, NSW, 2340

Ceased/Former Director Role Held

Appointment Date : 29/07/1989
Cease Date : 11/09/1990
Organisation in which role was held : LEISURE INDUSTRY FINANCIAL ENTERPRISES PTY LIMITED.
Australian Company Number (ACN) in which role was held : 003 422 731
Organisation Type : Australian Proprietary Company
Organisation Status : Deregistered
Address : MARIUS STREET, TAMWORTH, NSW, 2340

Ceased/Former Director Role Held

Appointment Date : 27/11/1987
Cease Date : 27/11/1987
Organisation in which role was held : MOTEL FEDERATION OF AUSTRALIA LIMITED
Australian Company Number (ACN) in which role was held : 000 237 141
Australian Business Number (ABN) in which role was held : 33 000 237 141
Organisation Type : Australian Public Company
Organisation Status : Registered
Address : MARIUS STREET, TAMWORTH, NSW, 2340

Current Director Role Held

0E8066008 (AR 2002)

Appointment Date : 30/06/1988
Organisation in which role is held : NATURAL COUNTRY FREIGHTS PTY. LIMITED
Australian Company Number (ACN) in which role is held : 000 512 925
Australian Business Number (ABN) in which role is held : 20 000 512 925
Organisation Type : Australian Proprietary Company
Organisation Status : Registered
Address : KILLORAN PARK, DUNGOWAN, NSW, 2340

Current Secretary Role Held

0E8066008 (AR 2002)

Appointment Date : 22/03/2000
Organisation in which role is held : NATURAL COUNTRY FREIGHTS PTY. LIMITED
Australian Company Number (ACN) in which role is held : 000 512 925
Australian Business Number (ABN) in which role is held : 20 000 512 925
Organisation Type : Australian Proprietary Company
Organisation Status : Registered
Address : KILLORAN PARK, DUNGOWAN, NSW, 2340

Current Director Role Held

0E8066117 (AR 2002)

Appointment Date : 30/06/1988
Organisation in which role is held : NEW ENGLAND FROZEN FOODS PTY LTD
Australian Company Number (ACN) in which role is held : 000 512 934
Australian Business Number (ABN) in which role is held : 22 000 512 934
Organisation Type : Australian Proprietary Company
Organisation Status : Registered
Address : KILLORAN PARK, DUNGOWAN, NSW, 2340

Current Secretary Role Held

0E8066117 (AR 2002)

Appointment Date : 22/03/2000
Organisation in which role is held : NEW ENGLAND FROZEN FOODS PTY LTD
Australian Company Number (ACN) in which role is held : 000 512 934
Australian Business Number (ABN) in which role is held : 22 000 512 934
Organisation Type : Australian Proprietary Company
Organisation Status : Registered
Address : KILLORAN PARK, DUNGOWAN, NSW, 2340

Current Director Role Held

0E8066107 (AR 2002)

Appointment Date : 30/06/1988
Organisation in which role is held : NEW ENGLAND MILK INDUSTRIES PTY LTD
Australian Company Number (ACN) in which role is held : 000 136 498
Australian Business Number (ABN) in which role is held : 59 000 136 498
Organisation Type : Australian Proprietary Company
Organisation Status : Registered
Address : KILLORAN PARK, DUNGOWAN, NSW, 2340

Current Secretary Role Held

0E8066107 (AR 2002)

Appointment Date : 22/03/2000
Organisation in which role is held : NEW ENGLAND MILK INDUSTRIES PTY LTD
Australian Company Number (ACN) in which role is held : 000 136 498
Australian Business Number (ABN) in which role is held : 59 000 136 498
Organisation Type : Australian Proprietary Company
Organisation Status : Registered
Address : KILLORAN PARK, DUNGOWAN, NSW, 2340

Current Director Role Held

0E8066075 (AR 2002)

Appointment Date : 29/02/1988
Organisation in which role is held : POWERHOUSE MOTOR INN PTY. LIMITED
Australian Company Number (ACN) in which role is held : 003 444 479
Australian Business Number (ABN) in which role is held : 41 003 444 479
Organisation Type : Australian Proprietary Company
Organisation Status : Registered
Address : KILLORAN PARK, DUNGOWAN, NSW, 2340

Current Secretary Role Held

0E8066075 (AR 2002)

Appointment Date : 22/03/2000
Organisation in which role is held : POWERHOUSE MOTOR INN PTY. LIMITED
Australian Company Number (ACN) in which role is held : 003 444 479
Australian Business Number (ABN) in which role is held : 41 003 444 479
Organisation Type : Australian Proprietary Company
Organisation Status : Registered
Address : KILLORAN PARK, DUNGOWAN, NSW, 2340

Current Director Role Held

0E8066042 (AR 2002)

Appointment Date : 14/07/1999
Organisation in which role is held : POWERHOUSE YACHT CHARTERS PTY. LTD.
Australian Company Number (ACN) in which role is held : 088 620 035
Australian Business Number (ABN) in which role is held : 48 088 620 035
Organisation Type : Australian Proprietary Company
Organisation Status : Registered
Address : KILLORAN PARK, DUNGOWAN, NSW, 2340

Current Secretary Role Held

0E8066042 (AR 2002)

Appointment Date : 14/07/1999
Organisation in which role is held : POWERHOUSE YACHT CHARTERS PTY. LTD.
Australian Company Number (ACN) in which role is held : 088 620 035
Australian Business Number (ABN) in which role is held : 48 088 620 035
Organisation Type : Australian Proprietary Company
Organisation Status : Registered
Address : KILLORAN PARK, DUNGOWAN, NSW, 2340

Current Director Role Held 0E8066040 (AR 2002)

Appointment Date : 22/03/2000
Organisation in which role is held : STARVOR PTY. LIMITED
Australian Company Number (ACN) in which role is held : 062 167 739
Australian Business Number (ABN) in which role is held : 96 062 167 739
Organisation Type : Australian Proprietary Company
Organisation Status : Registered
Address : KILLORAN PARK, DUNGOWAN, NSW, 2340

Current Secretary Role Held 0E8066040 (AR 2002)

Appointment Date : 22/03/2000
Organisation in which role is held : STARVOR PTY. LIMITED
Australian Company Number (ACN) in which role is held : 062 167 739
Australian Business Number (ABN) in which role is held : 96 062 167 739
Organisation Type : Australian Proprietary Company
Organisation Status : Registered
Address : KILLORAN PARK, DUNGOWAN, NSW, 2340

Current Director Role Held 018660548

Appointment Date : 23/08/2001
Organisation in which role is held : TOURISM TAMWORTH LTD
Australian Company Number (ACN) in which role is held : 097 932 333
Australian Business Number (ABN) in which role is held : 68 097 932 333
Organisation Type : Australian Public Company
Organisation Status : Registered
Address : KILLORAN PARK, DUNGOWAN, NSW, 2340

Current Secretary Role Held 018660548

Appointment Date : 23/08/2001
Organisation in which role is held : TOURISM TAMWORTH LTD
Australian Company Number (ACN) in which role is held : 097 932 333
Australian Business Number (ABN) in which role is held : 68 097 932 333
Organisation Type : Australian Public Company
Organisation Status : Registered
Address : KILLORAN PARK, DUNGOWAN, NSW, 2340

Ceased/Former Director Role Held

Appointment Date : Unknown
Cease Date : 21/04/1988
Organisation in which role was held : VAKUDI PTY LTD
Australian Company Number (ACN) in which role was held : 003 325 559
Organisation Type : Australian Proprietary Company
Organisation Status : Deregistered
Address : MARIUS STREET, TAMWORTH, NSW, 2340

Current Director Role Held 0E8066026 (AR 2002)

Appointment Date : 30/01/1981
Organisation in which role is held : VODATA PTY LTD
Australian Company Number (ACN) in which role is held : 002 052 806
Australian Business Number (ABN) in which role is held : 37 002 052 806
Organisation Type : Australian Proprietary Company
Organisation Status : Registered
Address : KILLORAN PARK, DUNGOWAN, NSW, 2340

Current Secretary Role Held 0E8066026 (AR 2002)

Appointment Date : 30/03/2000
Organisation in which role is held : VODATA PTY LTD
Australian Company Number (ACN) in which role is held : 002 052 806
Australian Business Number (ABN) in which role is held : 37 002 052 806
Organisation Type : Australian Proprietary Company
Organisation Status : Registered
Address : KILLORAN PARK, DUNGOWAN, NSW, 2340

Current Shareholding

0E8066107 (AR 2002)

Share Class Code : ORD
Number Held : 137209
Beneficially Owned : Yes
Fully Paid : Yes

Member (for above Shareholding)

Share Issuer Company Number : 000 136 498
Share Issuer Business Number : 59 000 136 498
Share Issuer Organisation Name : NEW ENGLAND MILK INDUSTRIES PTY LTD
Address : KILLORAN PARK, DUNGOWAN, NSW, 2340
Joint Holding Indicator : No
Organisation Number Heading : Australian Company Number (ACN)

Current Shareholding

0E8066026 (AR 2002)

Share Class Code : ORD
Number Held : 1
Beneficially Owned : Yes
Fully Paid : Yes

Member (for above Shareholding)

Share Issuer Company Number : 002 052 806
Share Issuer Business Number : 37 002 052 806
Share Issuer Organisation Name : VODATA PTY LTD
Address : KILLORAN PARK, DUNGOWAN, NSW, 2340
Joint Holding Indicator : No
Organisation Number Heading : Australian Company Number (ACN)

Personal Name Details

Personal Name Identifier : 5121799
Personal Name : **MAGUIRE, GREGORY KEVIN**
Birth Details : Unknown.....UNKNOWN
Former Name :

Ceased/Former Director Role Held

Appointment Date : Unknown
Cease Date : 27/02/1992
Organisation in which role was held : BINGEN PTY. LTD.
Australian Company Number (ACN) in which role was held : 010 268 498
Organisation Type : Australian Proprietary Company
Organisation Status : Deregistered
Address : 31 MARSH STREET, ARMIDALE, NSW, 2350

Current Shareholding

0E8066040 (AR 2002)

Share Class Code : ORD
Number Held : 1
Beneficially Owned : Yes
Fully Paid : Yes

Member (for above Shareholding)

Share Issuer Company Number : 062 167 739
Share Issuer Business Number : 96 062 167 739
Share Issuer Organisation Name : STARVOR PTY. LIMITED