



**Australian Competition & Consumer Commission**

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Our Ref: CA97/19  
Your Ref: AMT:RB  
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18 May 1998

Professor Bob Baxt  
Arthur Robinson & Hedderwicks  
GPO Box 1776Q  
MELBOURNE VIC 2001

**By Facsimile: 03 9614 4661**

Dear Professor Baxt

**Application for authorisation of the North West Shelf Project  
Authorisation no. A90624  
Interim Authorisation**

I refer to your letter dated 4 May 1998 requesting interim authorisation in relation to the above application.

The above application sought authorisation under s 88(1) of the *Trade Practices Act 1974* (Cth) for:

all contracts, arrangements or understandings under the North West Shelf Project relating to common terms and conditions (including price) upon which gas produced under the Project will be offered for sale to customers and to discuss and agree a method for the marketing and selling of such gas;

in so far as provisions of the contracts, arrangements or understandings would have the purpose, or would have or might have the effect of substantially lessening competition within the meaning of s 45 of the *Trade Practices Act*.

I note that authorisation was sought to enable the Joint Venture Participants to agree on common terms and conditions for the sale of gas to customers. Authorisation was not sought for the actual terms and conditions which may be included in contracts between Customers and the Joint Venture Participants.

E X E C U T I V E O F F I C E



The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission ("the Commission") has considered your request for interim authorisation in relation to the above application and has decided to grant interim authorisation on the following conditions:

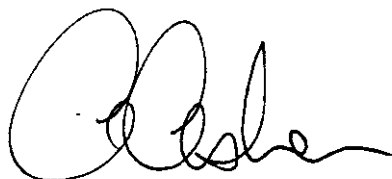
1. This interim authorisation:
  - (i) came into force on 13 May 1998; and
  - (ii) expires on the earlier of the following dates:
    - (a) when the Commission makes a determination on the application for authorisation; or
    - (b) 90 days after the day on which this interim authorisation came into force.

(Although note that under s 91(2) of the *Trade Practices Act*, the Commission may at any time, revoke an interim authorisation).

2. This interim authorisation does not extend to the provisions or proposed provisions of any contracts, arrangements or understandings between Customers and Joint Venture Participants.

A copy of this letter will be placed on the public register.

Yours sincerely



Allan Asher  
Deputy Chairman