

FAXED



Australian Government

Attorney-General's Department

**Information Law and
Human Rights Division**

03/14023

24 October 2005

Mr Scott Gregson
General Manager
Adjudication Branch
Australian Competition and Consumer Commission
GPO Box 520J
MELBOURNE VIC 3001

Dear Mr Gregson

Application for Revocation and Substitution lodged by the Investment and Financial Services Association (IFSA) in Relation to Clauses 10.1 and 10.3 of IFSA Standard No 11.00 *Genetic Testing Policy* (Your ref: A90986 and A90989)

Thank you for your letter of 11 October 2005 which invited comments on the Investment and Financial Services Association's (IFSA) applications for interim authorisation of Clauses 10.1 and 10.3 of IFSA Standard 11.00: Genetic Testing Policy and for revocation and substitution of Authorisations A90857 and A90869.

As you are aware, the Australian Law Reform Commission and Australian Health Ethics Committee of the National Health and Medical Research Council have completed their inquiry into the protection of human genetic information and have released Report No 96, *Essentially Yours: The Protection of Human Genetic Information In Australia*. The Government is giving close consideration to the recommendations emerging from the inquiry and is in the process of developing its response.

Our view is that it is appropriate that industry restriction on genetic testing for insurance purposes be maintained on an interim basis until you are able to conclude your consideration of IFSA's substantive application for revocation and substitution of those Authorisations.

The action officer for this matter is Liane Degville who can be contacted on (02) 6250 6378.

Yours sincerely



Janine Ward
A/g Assistant Secretary
Information Law Branch

Telephone: (02) 6250 6211
Facsimile: (02) 6250 5939
E-mail: janine.ward@ag.gov.au