



**Australian
Competition &
Consumer
Commission**

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Our Ref: C2010/344
Contact Officer: Simon Mitchell
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10 January 2011

Peter McDonald
Partner
Freehills

BY EMAIL: peter.mcdonald@freehills.com; sarah.benbow@freehills.com

Dear Mr McDonald

**Authorisations A91220-3 North West Shelf Gas Project
– Ring Fencing Audit Reports**

I refer to your provision of the ring fencing audit reports prepared by Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu for the partners in the North West Shelf Gas Project that have competing projects in Western Australia (Chevron Australia Pty Ltd, BHP Billiton Petroleum (North West Shelf) Pty Ltd, Shell Development (Australia) Pty Ltd) and North West Shelf Gas Pty Ltd on 24 December 2010.

A summary of these reports was also provided on 24 December 2010.

I note that it is a condition of the authorisation granted to the North West Shelf Gas Project joint venture partners on 8 September 2010 that each year the partners must provide the full independent audit report(s) to the ACCC, along with a summary for the public register, which to the ACCC's satisfaction accurately reflects the report.

Based on the information contained in the individual reports, I am satisfied that the summary provided on 24 December 2010 accurately reflects their contents.

I have considered your request that the individual audit reports be excluded from the public register.

As a person authorised to make a decision for and on behalf of the ACCC in relation to such a request, I advise that the individual audit reports will not be placed on the public register.

I note that the summary of the reports provided on 24 December 2010 will be placed on the public register.

This letter has been placed on the ACCC's public register. If you wish to discuss any aspect of this matter please contact Simon Mitchell on (03) 9290 6909
simon.mitchell@acc.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



David Hatfield
A/g General Manager
Adjudication Branch