



14 June 2002

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Reference: 001-0005-004-00
[ms06203]

Lisa Gropp
Assistant Commissioner
Productivity Commission
Harbour Towage Inquiry
LB2, Collins Street East
MELBOURNE VIC 8003

Dear Ms Gropp

Economic Regulation of Harbour Towage and Related Services

Thank you for providing Ports Corporation of Queensland with a copy of the Productivity Commission's position paper on "Economic Regulation of Harbour Towage and Related Services".

Consistent with its initial submission, the Corporation broadly supports the views outlined by the Commission, particularly in relation to exclusive licensing, in that:

...exclusive licensing should neither be prescribed nor proscribed by relevant jurisdictions. But it is an option, along with non-exclusive licences, which ports should have the discretion to implement...*provided* appropriate procedures and guidelines are in place to ensure that the option is exercised only when the benefits outweigh the costs. (Overview (XXXVII))

To this end, the Corporation specifically endorses Preliminary Recommendations 1 and 2.

The Corporation also takes this opportunity to point out a few minor inconsistencies in the position paper.

- Ports Corporation of Queensland has been omitted from Table 5.1
- Appendix D, page 188 under heading "Queensland":
 - Ports Corporation of Queensland was corporatised in 1994.
 - The date of corporatisation provided (1994) for some of the other ports is inconsistent with dates provided in Table 5.1.

The Corporation looks forward to participating in the public hearings and the subsequent delivery of the final Report.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brad Fish', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Brad Fish
Chief Executive Officer