



**Australian Government**  
**Productivity Commission**

GPO Box 1428  
Canberra City ACT 2601  
Telephone 02 6240 3202  
Facsimile 02 6240 3300  
www.pc.gov.au

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*From the Chairman's Office*

Senator Barnaby Joyce  
PO Box 628  
St George QLD 4487  
By email: [senator.joyce@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.joyce@aph.gov.au)

Dear Senator Joyce

You have been reported in the press suggesting that the Productivity Commission's final recommendations for its inquiry into executive remuneration were influenced by the Government (see attached AAP article). You may well have been misquoted or misrepresented, as can often happen. However, should there be any doubt, I want to assure you that no such influence has been exerted. Indeed the Commission's processes are designed to protect the independence of its work and I am strongly committed to preserving their integrity.

The Commission's final report, like the draft report, was prepared independently. All changes from the draft were changes that were considered necessary to improve the efficacy of the recommendations in the light of public feedback received and further analysis undertaken by us. Our reasoning is set out in detail in the report.

At no time did the Commission discuss such amendments, or indeed any of its final recommendations, with members of the Government prior to the final report being signed and copies printed.

If you were under some misapprehension about this, or if your remarks have been misrepresented, I would hope that you might find an early opportunity to clarify publicly your earlier remarks.

Yours sincerely,

Gary Banks AO  
Chairman, Productivity Commission

cc: The Hon Chris Bowen MP, Minister for Financial Services, Superannuation and Corporate Law  
Senator The Hon Nick Sherry, Assistant Treasurer  
The Hon Tony Abbott MP, Leader of the Opposition