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Government of Western Australia  
Department of the Premier and Cabinet  
Office of the Director General

Mr Colin Edwardes (Himself)  
Principal Policy Adviser  
OFFICE OF THE PREMIER; MINISTER FOR STATE DEVELOPMENT

**RE: DISCLOSURE OF POTENTIAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Thank you for your e-mail regarding the potential for a conflict of interest to arise between your personal relationships and your official responsibilities because your wife, Ms Cheryl Edwardes is a senior legal practitioner with Minter Ellison, an international law firm that frequently engages with government across all portfolios.

I note your advice that the Premier's Office implemented an operational procedure following your transfer in August 2009 requiring all Minter Ellison communications to be referred to the Deputy Chief of Staff, and that you have had no official contact with Minter Ellison since your transfer.

I have considered the information provided in your disclosure and in discussion with Mr Jones, and I am satisfied that you have acted appropriately to minimise the risk of an actual or potential conflict of interest between your personal relationships and official responsibilities. I accept your disclosure and endorse the mechanisms put in place in your office to minimise the risk of an actual or perceived conflict of interest.

Peter Conran  
**DIRECTOR GENERAL**

17 February 2010

