



964

10 June 2009

Mr Peter Conran
Director General
Department of Premier and Cabinet
197 St Georges Terrace
PERTH WA 6000

Dear Peter

I confirm that I have forwarded to Neil Logan at your Department, a signed acceptance of the offer to act as an independent facilitator for the Science and Conservation Strategy for the Kimberley.

As previously discussed, I have undertaken not to engage in any State Government Relation activities during my engagement and furthermore have removed myself from the Public Sector Commission's Register of Lobbyists (the Register) as from the 4 June 2009.

I also confirm as advised in previous discussions my following primary interests as they might relate to the Kimberley region.

I am employed as an Advisory Director with the DORIC Group which is engaged in the construction on the Broome Hospital. DORIC is a construction company which has an interest in construction work in the Northwest.

From February to May this year I have been on the State Government's Register for Lobbyists in relation to the work I do as an Associate Director for the Enhance Group.

The Enhance Group also had Santos Ltd as a client but work for this client has now ceased. In Western Australia other clients which have some varying degree of interest in the Kimberley are:

- a) Pluton – I have not had any dealings with this client.
- b) Panoramic – Panoramic has a nickel mine in the East Kimberley, however, my last work for the company was mid-April.
- c) Cliffs – Whilst Cliffs has an interest in Cockatoo Island, the Enhance Group has had nothing to do with them but instead has represented the company's interests in the Yilgarn. I have had an involvement with this as well.

Apart from the above I have had offers to work pro bono on the Board of Governors for the Notre Dame University, Broome and I have had discussions about a possible position with the Northwest Tourism Council. I do not see any of the forgoing as constituting a conflict of interest.

I do not have any other personal interests which would conflict with my role as facilitator.

As you know there has been some issue taken with my ongoing relationship with the Enhance Group despite having taken my name from the Register and giving the undertaking I mention.

Whilst I believe (and as I understand so does the Government) this addresses any conflict of interest I have today advised the Enhance Group that I will resign as an Associate Director for the period of the engagement in order to progress this very important project in the Kimberley. It is important that such a consultation process enjoys cross the board support.

The Enhance Group agrees with this course of action and fully supports the need for transparency and probity in government process.

My interest in the Kimberley stems from when I represented the Legal Aid Commission as flying solicitor about 30 years ago. As Senator for Western Australia and a Minister in the Australian Government I have continued an active involvement with the region.

I look forward to the task ahead and please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any queries.

Yours faithfully



Hon Chris Ellison

cc. Mr Dean Smith, Chief Executive, Enhance Corporate

