

2 May 2013

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Committee
Department of the Senate
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Re: Export Finance and Insurance Corporation Amendment (New Mandate and Other Measures) Bill 2013

Dear Senators,

Greenpeace made a submission to the Productivity Commission (the PC) in its inquiry into Australia's export credit agency. We are concerned that many of the PC's recommendations were not embraced by the Government in the above captioned bill currently before the Federal Parliament.

We, therefore, wish to direct the Committee to our submission to the PC attached to this letter, and to reinforce herein the following recommendations from the Jubilee Australia submission to this Committee. We believe these are critical to the fulfilment of EFIC's obligation as a statutory entity to operate at all times in the public interest.

- As noted in Section B of our PC submission, we support a statutory requirement for EFIC to integrate principles of ecologically sustainable development into its operations, including full disclosure of environmental risk assessments prior to the approval of funding proposals.
- As noted in Section C1 of our PC submission, we support the elimination of EFIC's exemptions from the Freedom of Information Act 1992 and the application to EFIC of the general exemption provisions of the Act.
- As noted in Section C2 of our PC submission, we support the removal of EFIC's exemption to the Economic Protection and Biodiversity Act.

Many thanks for your kind consideration of this submission.

Regards,

Ben Pearson
Program Director
Greenpeace Australia Pacific

Encl: Greenpeace Submission to the Productivity Commission inquiry into Australia's export credit arrangements. http://www.pc.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0004/113872/sub009.pdf

