

Attachment 3

Extracts from the Productivity Commission Act

“9 Flexibility and range of working methods in performance of Commission’s functions

In the performance of its functions, the Commission:

- (a) is not required to act in a formal manner; and
- (b) may inform itself on any matter in any way it thinks fit; and
- (c) may consult with anyone it thinks fit; and
- (d) may receive written or oral information or submissions; and
- (e) may hold public seminars, conduct workshops and establish working groups and task forces.”

“11 Reference of matters to Commission for inquiry

(1) In referring a matter to the Commission for inquiry, the Minister may, for the purpose of ensuring that the inquiry is conducted in the manner appropriate to that inquiry, do any or all of the following:

- (a) require the Commission to hold hearings for the purposes of the inquiry;
- (b) specify a period within which the Commission must submit its report on the inquiry to the Minister;
- (c) require the Commission to make a draft report available to the public during an inquiry;
- (d) the require the Commission to make recommendations in relation to the matter;

and the Commission must act accordingly.

(2) The Commission must make a written report to the Minister on the inquiry unless the Minister withdraws the reference to the Commission.

(3) The Minister may withdraw or amend the reference at any time before the Minister has received the report on the inquiry from the Commission.

(4) If the Minister refers a matter to the Commission for inquiry, the Commission may also make recommendations in the report on any matters relevant to the matter referred.”