



Australian Wool
Innovation Limited

www.wool.com

Level 30, HSBC Centre,
580 George St,
Sydney NSW 2000,
GPO Box 4177, Sydney
NSW 2001
p +61 2 8295 3100
f +61 2 8295 4100

16th October, 2012

Peter Crisp
Crisp Galleries
Hume Hwy
Yass NSW 2582

Dear Peter,

I note your recent correspondence to both myself and the company stating your endeavours to acquire the wool processing equipment or part thereof from the CSIRO in Belmont Geelong.

I recognise that this equipment has been gathered over a great number of years by the CSIRO to undertake research for the Australian wool industry and that funding for this has been provided from wool growers for as long as that facility has been open.

I'm firmly of the belief that an education role still exist to expose our younger generation students to wool processing and the benefits of wool and I would support your efforts in trying to pursue that approach.

I wish you all the best in repatriating a portion of this equipment for use in this way.

Kind Regards,

Wal Merriman
Chairman

Minutes of meeting

Sustainable Wool in Australia (SWAG) and CSIRO

Thursday 18 October 2012 @ 1.30 pm

CSIRO Geelong Laboratory Victoria

Present:

CSIRO: Dr Stuart Lucas - officer in Charge Geelong Laboratory

Dr Bill Humphries - Theme Leader Advanced Fibrous Materials

SWAG: Peter Crisp – Founder of SWAG;

Leon Martin

Andrew McKibbin

Opening Remarks by Peter Crisp on behalf of SWAG

Peter described SWAG and its objectives in trying to maintain a Worsted Woollen mill in Australia for education purposes. SWAGs was concerned that the last Worsted Woollen mill equipment was being sold off. Peter referred to letters of support to SWAG from AWI and individual wool producers. SWAG and AWI were of the view that the wool tax had paid principally for the plant and equipment for the Geelong laboratory. SWAG wished to obtain some of this equipment to:

- Maintain a woollen mill in Australia for fibre testing;
- Provide educational services to Agricultural students and others on the creation of woollen fabric

Reference was made to the letter to Megan Clarke, CEO CSIRO, on 8 October 2012 with SWAGs concerns. SWAG wished to obtain the equipment as Trustees for wool growers and install it in a wool shed for educational purposes. AWI Chief Executive and Chairman fully supported the proposal as indicated in correspondence forwarded.

Bill Humphries response on behalf of CSIRO

The wool tax was collected by AWRAP for 50 years. AWRAP contributed to Geelong Testing Laboratory plant and equipment for the testing and production of woollen fabrics. The Government matched the AWRAP contributions and CSIRO contributed up to 50 %.

AWRAP had a Strategic Alliance with CSIRO which AWRAP decided to discontinue in the early 2000s. The unwinding of the alliance was complicated especially in relation to ownership of plant and equipment.

There was a division of facilities, plant and equipment in a Commercial agreement. As part of that settlement AWRAP received, by transfer, the CSIRO Site in prospect NSW. CSIRO obtained title and ownership to all plant & Equipment at Belmont.

Stuart Lucas Report on Current Status of Plant & Equipment

CSIRO wishes to sell the equipment to get rid of it as it is moving Site to a smaller footprint and the equipment has not been used for many years. Some specific items will be maintained where it is used for the testing of cotton for instance where the Cotton Growers support the testing financially.

Current timetable:

- Dominion had been commissioned to sell the equipment and Dominion was using Ramsay McDonald to organise its sale by tender
- The equipment is undergoing OH& S evaluation to identify safety risks prior to sale.
- Request for Expressions of Interest/Tender in February 2013 with advertisements promoting the sale being placed in National Newspapers

The money obtained from sale would be used by CSIRO to fund research and development activities. An evaluation criteria would be that consideration would be given if tenders proposed to keep the equipment in Australia for 5 years. No specific weighting had been allocated for that requirement.

Equipment available:

- a) Top making
- b) Spinning
- c) Carding; and
- d) Combing

No Scouring equipment was being sold.

If SWAG was interested it needed to let Dominion know.

Tour of Facility

Bill Humphries and Dr Stuart Lucas guided the SWAG members on a tour of the equipment that is to be sold.

Meeting ended at 2.40 pm

Signed as a correct record

.....

Peter Crisp

Dr Stuart Lucas

SWAG

CSIRO

Date:.....

Date:.....



Limestone Avenue, Campbell ACT 2601
PO Box 225, Dickson ACT 2602, Australia
T (02) 6276 6621 • ABN 41 687 119 230

11 February 2013

Mr Peter Crisp
Sustainable Wool in Australia Group (SWAG)

Email:

Dear Mr Crisp

Thank you for your correspondence to my office regarding your concerns about the upcoming sale of a number of items from our Belmont laboratory, specifically the worsted plant and equipment.

I understand that several conversations have taken place between yourself and staff members from CSIRO at Belmont. I can confirm previous advice provided to you by Dr Lucas that the plant and equipment in question is owned by CSIRO and CSIRO is obligated by policy to dispose of its assets wherever possible according to a publicly competitive process.

We are therefore unable to gift this plant and equipment as per your request, nor cover the cost of relocating and recommissioning it, but we would welcome your participation in the tender process which will conclude on 15 February.

In relation to your question about the proceeds of sale from the land at CSIRO Belmont, the funds received from this sale will be used to support our ongoing research in the region at our new facilities in Waurn Ponds.

I realise this is not the outcome you are hoping for but, as outlined, we are obliged to follow this protocol. I personally wish you all the very best for your future endeavours.

Yours sincerely

Dr Megan Clark

From: Peter Crisp
Sent: Friday, 19 October 2012 2:34 PM
To:
Cc:

Subject: Peter Crisp on behalf of SWAG Board of Trustees
Importance: High

Dr Stuart Lucas,
Officer in Charge – Geelong Laboratory,
Research Program Leader- Fibre Science & Engineering
CSIRO,
Belmont Geelong,

Dear Stuart,

Thank you for making time to see the Trustees of SWAG Andrew McKibbin, Leon Martin and myself yesterday at CSIRO at 1pm.

Dr Bill Humphries, speaking on behalf of CSIRO, confirmed that most of the plant and equipment had been funded by Wool Tax including some of the buildings at CSIRO Belmont Geelong.

Bill Humphries highlighted the point that in 2000, to settle ownership issues, AWRAP agreed to swap the asset base of what had been put into CSIRO Geelong, to the asset base of CSIRO Prospect NSW, "Ian Clunies Ross Animal Research Laboratory".

I have been carrying out some research this morning.

1953 CSIRO establishes a sheep biology laboratory at Prospect.

1959 CSIRO site at Prospect renamed "Ian Clunies Ross Animal Research Laboratory"

2000 CSIRO Prospect announce site to be closed.

2002 CSIRO vacates the Prospect site.

2003 CSIRO October sells this site.

2003 October 17th Prospect Hill site listed on the State Heritage Register.

Could you provide evidence and documentation of this agreement between AWRAP, CSIRO Geelong and CSIRO Prospect, at your earliest convenience please, for SWAG and AWI.

Equally too could CSIRO supply documentation of the dispersal of assets from wool tax, from Australian Wool Growers, from the sale of CSIRO Prospect.

I have cc this to all trustees of SWAG and to the attention of Annemaree Lonergan to keep Dr Megan Clark CEO of CSIRO up to date with our request, including the Federal Government Departments of Regional Australia and Tertiary Education.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Crisp

SWAG

SWAG

SUSTAINABLE WOOL in AUSTRALIA GROUP

Interim Board of Trustees

Mr Leon Martin,
Mr Charles Massy
Mr Andrew McKibbin
Mr Peter Crisp
Mr Sandy Crisp
Mrs Helen Cathles
Mr Nick Bradford
Mr Stan Waldren
Mrs Janet Webb

SWAG Interim Board of Trustees

Mr Leon A. Martin BAgSc(Hons)
Managing Director of Grosvenor Range Pty Ltd
Charmac Merino Stud Principal.
P.O.Box 5063, Lavington, New South Wales, 2708, Australia.

Fascimile: +61 2 6043 2618

Website: www.charmacmerinos.com <<http://www.charmacmerinos.com>>

Mr Charles Massy,

"Severn Park", Bobundra NSW 2630

Mr Andrew McKibbin **Kildrummie Pastoral** (ABN 75 857 793 375)

1279 Burruga Rd

Rockley 2795

Fax: (02)63379678

Mr Peter Crisp, Gap Range Past Co,

"Gap Range", Bowning NSW 2582

Mr Sandy Crisp Gap Range Past Co

"Gap Range", Bowning NSW 2582

Mrs Helen Cathles,

National President, Australian Superfine Wool Growers' Association Inc

"Cooradigbee", Wee Jasper, NSW 2582

Mr Nick Bradford, Nundle Woollen Mill

www.nundle.com

store.nundlewoollenmill.com.au

One Oakenville St

Nundle, NSW, 2340

AUSTRALIA

Tel: 1300 N-U-N-D-L-E (1300 686 353)

Fax + 61 2 6769 3351

Mr Stan Waldren,

"Walgrove", Yass NSW 2582

Mrs Janet Webb,

"Wollogorang", Goulburn NSW 2580