



Australian Government
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

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26 August 2014

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

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee Inquiry into the Trade and Foreign Investment (Protecting the Public Interest) Bill 2014

Dear Committee Secretary

The Department refers to the public hearing held on 6 August 2014 in this inquiry and the evidence reported at pages 45 and 46 of the Proof Hansard extracted below.

Mr De Cure: The government's position is case by case, but to get back to the start, yes, I have been around long enough to have been involved from the start, but I can assure you I was not. The point is that we initially did investment promotion and protection agreements, which in many cases incorporated these sorts of provisions—as I said, it is incorporated in 21 of those. We have not done any of those for some time. I think it is about the late nineties, maybe 1999 was the last one, Richard?

Mr Braddock: Yes.

Mr De Cure: It is probably not important, but you get a sense of the time frame. ...

This statement suggests that Australia has not entered into any investment promotion and protection agreements since 1999. The Department wishes to clarify that Australia has signed five investment promotion and protection agreements since 1999 with the last such agreement signed in 2005.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Helen Stylianou'.

Helen Stylianou
A/g First Assistant Secretary
Office of Trade Negotiations