22 April 2004

Transport and Regional Services Committee House of Representatives Parliament House CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Sirs

Inquiry into Maritime Salvage in Australian Waters

I have pleasure to provide the Insurance Council's Submission in response to the Discussion Paper.

We recognise that the closing date for submissions has passed, but hope that the Committee will kindly accept this late Submission.

We have gone to some length to explain some of the more practical considerations associated with maritime salvage and how the costs are ultimately borne by the community. We hope that the Committee will find these views helpful in considering the wider issues.

We would be happy to provide any further views or information, from the perspective of marine insurance, if the Committee would find this helpful.

Yours faithfully

Robert Drummond General Manager

encl.