

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS SERVICE

Question No. 71

Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing on 13 February 2007:

In relation to Customs responsibilities under prohibited imports regulations and prohibited exports regulations, could Customs indicate the process whereby:

- a) Importers importing goods that were under the ambit of the UN Oil for Food program could gain authorisation for importation into Australia?
- b) Exporters exporting goods that were under the ambit of the UN Oil for Food program could gain authorisation for exportation out of Australia?

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

- a) *(Please also reference **Senate Question on Notice 93 of 31 October 2006**).* To gain authority to import goods under the ambit of the UN Oil for Food program, an importer was required to obtain a permission from a delegate of the Minister for Foreign Affairs, and surrender that permission to Customs upon entering those goods for home consumption.

Customs electronic import clearance system was flagged to impede the clearance of goods subject to the UN sanction until evidence of an appropriate permission had been surrendered to Customs.

- b) To gain authority to export goods under the ambit of the UN Oil for Food program, an exporter was required to obtain a permission from a delegate of the Minister for Foreign Affairs, and surrender that permission to Customs upon entering those goods for export.

Customs electronic export clearance system was flagged to impede authority for clearance of goods subject to the sanction until evidence of an appropriate permission had been surrendered to Customs.