



Dr Ian Holland
Secretary
Senate Environment, Communications, IT and the Arts Committee
Department of the Senate
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Dr Holland

We refer to your correspondence concerning the Do Not Call Register Bills 2006 and in particular, proposed new sections 125A and 135A of the Telecommunications Act.

Read together, these provisions require that the Australian Communications and Media Authority must determine certain industry standards relating to the telemarketing industry in consultation with the States and Territories.

The New South Wales and Victorian Governments made a joint submission in response to the discussion paper on the proposed national do not call register in which they requested further consultation on the development of national industry standards for the telemarketing industry in relation to such matters as restricting the hours during which telemarketers may call.

We welcome the legislative requirement for consultation in order to ensure there are agreed uniform standards operating throughout Australia. As you are aware, there are a range of statutory and voluntary regimes governing telemarketing practices and New South Wales and Victoria have actively pursued a harmonisation policy during the past year. The participation of the Commonwealth will be a valuable development.

We trust that this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely,

DIANE BEAMER MP

Minister for Fair Trading (NSW)

MARSHA THOMSON MP

Minister for Consumer Affairs (Vic)