



TREASURER

PARLIAMENT HOUSE  
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June 1996

Mr Geoff Bird  
National President  
Australian Union of Students  
PO Box 123  
Roma Street  
BRISBANE QLD 4003

Dear Mr Bird

I refer to your application of 24 April 1996 under section 44F of the Trade Practices Act 1974 ("the Act") for the National Competition Council ("the Council") to recommend under section 44G that a particular service be declared.

Your application was made on behalf of the Australian Union of Students ("AUS"). AUS is seeking access to a service described by it as the "Austudy Payroll Deduction Service". AUS has identified the facility to provide the 'service' as the Department of Employment, Education, Training and Youth Affairs' (DEETYA) computer network.

Section 44F(2)(b) requires the Council to recommend to the designated Minister, in this case me, that the service be either declared or not declared. The recommendation is to be accompanied by a statement of reasons.

The Council recommended that the service not be declared. The Council was not satisfied that it would be uneconomical for anyone to develop another facility to provide the service, that the facility was of national significance, and that access to the service would not be contrary to the public interest.

The Act requires me, on receiving this declaration recommendation, to either declare the service or decide not to declare it. I have accepted the Council's recommendation and its reasons and have decided that the service should not be declared.

The Act requires me to publish the declaration or my decision not to declare the service. At the same time, the reasons for my decision and a copy of the declaration recommendation must be sent to the provider and to the person who applied for the declaration recommendation. I have adopted the Council's reasons for recommendation as my reasons for decision. A copy of these reasons is attached.

Yours sincerely

PETER COSTELLO