



Our ref: CORP F2020/000319

30 September 2020

Mr Patrick Martin  
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Australian Broadcasting Corporation  
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Dear Mr Martin

### Determination under the *Freedom of Information Act 1991*

I refer to your application made under the *Freedom of Information Act 1991* which was received by the Department of Primary Industries and Regions (PIRSA) on 3 August 2020, seeking access to the following:

*"All communications between the Office of the Minister for Primary Industries and Regions and the Department for Primary Industries and Regions covering former Minister Tim Whetstone's July 2018 study tour trip to the United States. We seek documents that include:*

- Emails exchanged between agencies*
- Itinerary documents*
- Documents that detail travel arrangements (including accommodation)"*

On 19 August 2020, contact was made with you by PIRSA's Freedom of Information and Privacy Officer seeking clarification of your application. Your application was on hold for a period of fourteen days in the course of negotiations on the scope. It was confirmed that you are seeking all documents, including requests for briefings and background information. Accordingly, the date in which to make a determination in response to your application was amended to 16 September 2020.

The following determination has been finalised.

I have located forty-four documents that are captured within the scope of your request.

#### **Determination 1**

I have determined that access to the following documents is **granted in full**:

Doc No.	Description of document	No. of Pages
1	Emails between A Deller-Coombs (PIRSA), S Price (PIRSA – Office of the Minister, A Hull (PIRSA – Office of the Minister) dated 3/7/2018 re Minister's US Program	2
3	Email from A Hull (PIRSA – Office of the Minister) to N Bailey (PIRSA) dated 21/6/2018 re Proposed Official Visit to the USA	1



3a	Attachment to Doc 3 – Proposed Itinerary – Visit to the United States of America	2
5	Email thread between A Hull (PIRSA – Office of the Minister), N Bailey (PIRSA), S Matthews (PIRSA) dated 21/6/2018 to 26/6/2018 re Proposed Official Visit to the USA	3
5a	Attachment to Doc 5 – Proposed Itinerary – Visit to the United States of America	2
6	Email thread between A Hull (PIRSA – Office of the Minister), N Bailey (PIRSA), S Matthews (PIRSA), B Houston (PIRSA) dated 21/6/2018 to 27/6/2018 re Proposed Official Visit to the USA	6
6a	Attachment to Doc 6 – Draft 2018 USA (Texas and California) Mission Program	1
7	Email thread between A Hull (PIRSA – Office of the Minister), N Bailey (PIRSA), S Matthews (PIRSA) dated 21/6/2018 and 22/6/2018 re Proposed Official Visit to the USA	2
7a	Attachment to Doc 7 – Proposed Itinerary – Visit to the United States of America	2
9	Email thread between A Hull (PIRSA – Office of the Minister), N Bailey (PIRSA), S Matthews (PIRSA), B Houston (PIRSA) dated 21/6/2018 to 26/6/2018 re Proposed Official Visit to the USA	6
9a	Attachment to Doc 9 – Proposed Itinerary – Visit to the United States of America	2
10	Minute to Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development from A/Chief Executive, PIRSA dated 25/5/2018 re Proposed Mission to the United States July 2018	3
10a	Attachment to Doc 10 – Dallas, Texas Potential Appointments	8
10b	Attachment to Doc 10 – Draft 2018 USA (Texas and California) Mission Program	1
11	Briefing for Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development - US Insights	15
11a	Attachment to Doc 11 – R&D at the US Department of Agriculture	1
11b	Attachment to Doc 11 – Agtech: Advancing Agribusiness and Food Processing – US Clusters	32
13	Speaking Points for Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development	1
13a	Attachment to Doc 13 – PIRSA Key Messages and Fast Facts dated March 2018	51
14	Briefing for Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development - City of Grapevine	3
16	Briefing for Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development - Mission Foods	3
17	Briefing for Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development - Frito-Lay	3
18	Briefing for Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development - Texas Wine and Grape Growers Association	5
21	Briefing for Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development - US Davis College of Agriculture and Environmental Science	6
22	Briefing for Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development - Napa Valley Program	5



22a	Attachment to Doc 22 – Information Sheet – Adelaide South Australia, A great wine capital of the world	4
22b	Attachment to Doc 22 – Program for Great Wine Capitals of the World Network 2018 AGM	16
22c	Attachment to Doc 22 – Media article dated 25/6/2018	7
23	Briefing for Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development - Swift Navigation Inc	3
24	Briefing for Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development - Ceres Imaging	2
26	Briefing for Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development - E&J Gallo Winery	3
26a	Attachment to Doc 26 – E&J Gallo Winery Company Fact Sheet	1
27	Briefing for Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development - Caltec Agriculture Inc	3

The information removed from Document 10a is outside of the scope of your request.

## **Determination 2**

I have determined that access to the following documents is **granted in part**:

Doc No.	Description of document	No. of Pages
4	Email thread between Soteria Transportation Group, Austrade, A Deller-Coombs (PIRSA), F Bond (PIRSA – Office of the Minister), A Hull (PIRSA – Office of the Minister) dated 3/7/2018 to 7/7/2018 re Dallas transport quote	9
4a	Attachment to Doc 4 – Avanti Int'l Transportation Trip Confirmations	3
8	Email thread between Austrade, B Houston (PIRSA), A Hull (PIRSA – Office of the Minister) dated 8/6/2018 to 19/6/2018 re Hon Tim Whetstone – Visit to the USA	5
10c	Attachment to Doc 10 – Email dated 22/5/2018 re Official passports for new ministers	2
12	Briefing for Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development - US Engagement	2
15	Briefing for Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development - Texas A&M University	4
19	Briefing for Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development - Southern Glazer's Wine and Spirits Distribution	3
20	Briefing for Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development - California Department of Food and Agriculture	4
25	Briefing for Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development - Almond Board of California	3
28	Briefing for Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development - Wine Australia	2



The information removed from the above documents is pursuant to Clause 6(1) of Schedule 1 of the Freedom of Information Act which states:

***“6 - Documents affecting personal affairs***

*(1) A document is an exempt document if it contains matter the disclosure of which would involve the unreasonable disclosure of information concerning the personal affairs of any person (living or dead).”*

The information removed consists of:

- names and telephone numbers of third parties; and
- matters of private concern to an individual.

Accordingly, it is considered that disclosure of this information would be an unreasonable intrusion into the privacy rights of the individuals concerned.

**Determination 3**

I have determined that access to the following document is **granted in part**:

Doc No.	Description of document	No. of Pages
2	Emails between A Hull (PIRSA – Office of the Minister) and R Robinson (PIRSA) dated 26/6/2018 and 27/6/2018 re Proposed Official Visit to the USA	2

The information removed from the above document is pursuant to Clause 7(1)(c) of Schedule 1 of the Freedom of Information Act which states:

***“7 – Documents affecting business affairs***

*(1) A document is an exempt document –*

*(c) if it contains matter –*

- (i) consisting of information (other than trade secrets or information referred to in paragraph (b)) concerning the business, professional, commercial or financial affairs of any agency or any other person; and*
- (ii) the disclosure of which –*
  - (A) could reasonably be expected to have an adverse effect on those affairs or to prejudice the future supply of such information to the Government or to an agency; and*
  - (B) would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest”*

In addressing the public interest test requirement for this exemption, I have balanced the following factors:

*In favour of the public interest:*

- Meeting the objects of the Act favouring access to documents.
- Ensuring optimal use of public resources.
- High level of interest in the accountability of public office holders.



- The importance of transparency and openness and the interest that the public has in the decision-making processes of Government.

*Contrary to the public interest:*

- Disclosure of this information would reveal detail which is considered commercially sensitive to the company concerned.
- It is expected that release of this information would result in a competitive disadvantage to the company concerned and potentially jeopardise future business planning between the company and Government.
- If third parties cannot be assured of confidentiality by Government with respect to communications relating to their commercially sensitive information, this would have the potential to harm business relationships with Government and hamper future dealings with agencies for the betterment of South Australia.
- Disclosure of this information would be expected to prejudice the future supply of information to Government, as the level of trust in handling such information would be substantially diminished.

Having considered the various factors weighing for and against disclosure, I have determined that disclosure of this information would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest.

If you are dissatisfied with this determination, you are entitled to exercise your right of review and appeal as outlined in the attached documentation <https://archives.sa.gov.au/finding-information/information-held-sa-government/making-freedom-information-application#Review>, by completing the "FOI Application Form for Internal Review of a Determination" and returning the completed form to:

Freedom of Information Principal Officer  
Department of Primary Industries and Regions  
GPO Box 1671  
ADELAIDE SA 5001

or via email [PIRSA.FOI@sa.gov.au](mailto:PIRSA.FOI@sa.gov.au)

In accordance with the requirements of Premier and Cabinet Circular PC045, details of your application, and the documents to which you are given access, will be published in PIRSA's disclosure log. A copy of PC045 can be found at [http://dpc.sa.gov.au/data/assets/pdf\\_file/0019/20818/PC045-Disclosure-Log-Policy.pdf](http://dpc.sa.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0019/20818/PC045-Disclosure-Log-Policy.pdf)

If you disagree with publication, please advise the undersigned in writing within fourteen calendar days from the date of this determination.

Should you require further information or clarification with respect to this matter, please contact Ms Lisa Farley, Freedom of Information and Privacy Officer on 8429 0422 or email [PIRSA.FOI@sa.gov.au](mailto:PIRSA.FOI@sa.gov.au).

Yours sincerely



Darren Humphrys  
**Accredited Freedom of Information Officer**  
**DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIES AND REGIONS**