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From: Paul Pirani

Sent: Friday, 4 October 2013 3:31 PM

To: a.keys@hopgoodganim.com.au; Peter Burge <p.burge@hopgoodganim.com.au>

(p.burge@hopgoodganim.com.au)

Cc: Ed Killesteyn

Subject: Re-count requests for the election of Senators in WA [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

For-Official-Use-Only

Mr Peter Burge Special Counsel Hopgood Ganim

Original by email: p.burge@hopgoodganim.com.au

Dear Mr Burge

I refer to your email of 4 October 2013. I note that for some reason the email address that you have used did not reach me and I have received your email via the Electoral Commissioner.

In relation to the four matters raised in your email the AEC responds as follows:

(1) I have just contacted both Senator Ludlam and Mr Dropulich who have consented to the release of their requests and submissions. I also note that the letters from Senator Ludlam have been published by Crikey and can be found on the following link - http://media.crikey.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/appeal-to-AE-Commissioner.pdf. If you have any difficulties with the link, I can arrange for the correspondence from Senator Ludlam to be otherwise forwarded to you.

The two emails from Mr Dropulich are combined in the attached document.

- (2) The AEC accepts your statements about natural justice being afforded to your clients and invites the lodgement of any written submissions to the Electoral Commissioner that must be received by **5PM Eastern Daylight Savings Time on Tuesday 8 October 2013**. This matter has proceeded by way of written submissions and the same opportunity has been given to the parties who have requested a re-count.
- (3) Any submissions made by your clients that are received by the deadline in paragraph (2) above will be considered prior to any decision being made under subsection 278(2) of the Electoral Act.
- (4) The approach taken by the AEC is to formally respond to requests for a re-count.

Yours sincerely

Paul Pirani | Chief Legal Officer

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