

The Honourable Justice G Giudice
President
Australian Industrial Relations Commission
Nauru House
80 Collins Street
MELBOURNE VIC 3000

Dear Justice Giudice

**SAFETY NET REVIEW WAGES 2003 - COMMONWEALTH'S RESPONSES TO
QUESTIONS AND REQUESTS TAKEN ON NOTICE**

Please find attached (Attachment, Part 1) answers in response to several questions and requests arising from the Commonwealth's submissions to the Safety Net Review. Responses to a few remaining issues raised by the Commission will be forwarded shortly.

In addition, for the information of the Commission, attached (Attachment, Part 2) is the latest DEWR Leading Indicator of Employment, which was released on 9 April 2003. This updates the reference at paragraph R2.10 of the Government's Reply Submission (Exhibit Commonwealth 2). It predicts a softening in employment in mid 2003, notwithstanding the recent strong growth in ABS vacancies in the February quarter 2003.

A copy of this letter and attachments is being forwarded to the other parties to the proceedings.

Yours sincerely

ER Cole
Advocacy Team Leader

10 April 2003