



Australian Government

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet Office of Best Practice Regulation

Reference: 16645
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Ms Jan Harris
Deputy Secretary
The Treasury

Dear Ms Harris

Regulation Impact Statement – Second-pass final assessment – Australian Small Business and Family Enterprise Ombudsman Bill 2015

Thank you for submitting the Regulation Impact Statement (RIS) for the above proposal to the Office of Best Practice Regulation (OBPR) for second-pass final assessment on 8 May 2015. I note that the RIS has been formally certified at the Deputy Secretary level consistent with best practice.

The OBPR's final assessment is that the Treasury is compliant with the Government's RIS requirements and the RIS is consistent with best practice. This assessment is based on:

- the regulatory cost and savings estimates having been agreed with the OBPR;
- your letter of 8 May 2015 certifying the RIS responds to the OBPR's formal comments on the RIS submitted for first-pass assessment; and
- the RIS does not contain obvious errors.

The OBPR notes that the RIS examines ways to implement the Government's commitment to create a Small Business Ombudsman. The major benefit of introducing a Small Business Ombudsman is to reduce the number of disputes that are elevated to the Federal Court.

Publication requirements

The OBPR maintains a RIS website and the Government requires that RISs be posted within 5 business days of a regulatory decision being publicly announced. We would appreciate you advising us when a decision on this proposal is announced, and forwarding a final copy of the RIS in *Microsoft Word .doc* format in a form meeting the Australian Government's *Web Content Accessibility Guidelines*.

We suggest liaising with your web services team to ensure these guidelines are met. The OBPR should be consulted if the RIS is amended. It is the agency preparing the RIS, not the OBPR, which is responsible for the content of the published RIS.

The website provides a public comment facility on RISs posted on the site. The OBPR moderates this facility for offensive content but does not moderate debate.

Please retain this letter as a record of the OBPR's advice. Our reference number for this matter is 16645. If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. McNamara', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Jason McNamara
Executive Director
Office of Best Practice Regulation
12 May 2015