



## Australian Government

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

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Mr James Baxter  
First Assistant Secretary  
Office of Trade Negotiations  
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Dear Mr Baxter

#### **Regulation Impact Statement – Second Pass Final Assessment – World Trade Organization (WTO) Services Domestic Regulation Joint Statement Initiative (DR JSI)**

Thank you for your letter submitting a Regulation Impact Statement (RIS) for formal Second Pass Final Assessment on Friday, 22 July 2022. I note that the RIS has been formally certified at the First Assistant Secretary level, consistent with the Department's delegation arrangements under the *Australian Government Guide to Regulatory Impact Analysis*.

I appreciate the Department's constructive engagement on the RIS, particularly in the last week between our officers.

The Office of Best Practice Regulation's (OBPR's) assessment is that the quality of the regulatory impact analysis in the RIS is adequate and therefore sufficient to inform a decision.

To be considered 'good practice' as per the *Australian Government Guide to Regulatory Impact Analysis*, the RIS would have benefitted from:

- Greater detail and specific economic modelling on the potential benefits for Australian business under all parties signing up to the WTO Services DR JSI.
- Specific detail on stakeholder consultation, their views and how this improved the quality of negotiations.

The RIS may now be provided to the decision-maker to inform their decision.

## **Next steps**

After a final decision has been announced, I ask that your agency work with OBPR to finalise this material for public release. This includes providing a copy of the RIS in Word and PDF format for web accessibility purposes.

If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jason Lange". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "L".

Jason Lange  
Executive Director  
25 July 2022