

Occidental Chemical Corporation

December 21, 1999

Mr Herb Plunkett Review of Australia's General Tariff Arrangements Productivity Commission P O Box 80 BELCONNEN ACT 2616

Dear Mr Plunkett,

Re: Review of Australia's General Tariff Arrangements

I wish to tender this letter of support regarding Plastic Products (Sth Aust) request for a review of the duty for Phenolic Molding Compounds.

Occidental Chemical Corporation has a joint venture with Sumitomo based in Singapore (Sumi Durez). Sumi Durez manufacture Phenolic Molding Compounds. Occidental Chemical Corporation (Aust) Pty Ltd currently imports the material into Australia to meet the requirements of local Phenolic Molders. The decision was made by Occidental Chemical Corporation (Aust) Pty Ltd when Huntsman closed down their Australian manufacture of Phenolic Molding Compounds in 1998 to directly import to meet the needs of local manufacturers.

We would appreciate your favourable consideration of Plastic Product's request regarding the decrease in duty applicable to Phenolic Molding Compounds.

If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind Regards,

Lorraine Ratjens Sales Manager