

Our reference: 1164/15



ASIC

Australian Securities & Investments Commission

19 January 2015

Mr Culley Palmer

By email: [foi+request-864-3bb5118a@righttoknow.org.au](mailto:foi+request-864-3bb5118a@righttoknow.org.au)

Level 7, 120 Collins Street,  
Melbourne VIC 3000  
GPO Box 9827, Melbourne VIC 3001  
DX 423 Melbourne

Telephone: +61 3 9280 3200  
Facsimile: +61 3 9280 3444  
[www.asic.gov.au](http://www.asic.gov.au)

Dear Mr Palmer

### **Acknowledgement of Freedom of Information Request**

We refer to your request for access under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (FOI Act) to the following documents:

- a. Copies of any communications between ASIC and any other Government Departments, Agencies or individuals mentioning or concerning Metgasco's activities in PEL16 (Metgasco is listed on the Australian stock Exchange as MEL); and*
- b. Copies of all briefings, communications, forms, reports or notes mentioning Metgasco's activities in PEL16.*

### **Scope of your request**

We note that on 6 February 2014 the New South Wales Government granted Metgasco Ltd approval to drill an exploration well at Bentley, located between Casino and Lismore in PEL 16 (the activity approval). That approval was subsequently suspended by the New South Wales Office of Coal Seam Gas (OSCG) on 14 May 2014. The OSCG stipulated that no works are to be undertaken until Metgasco Ltd can demonstrate that it has complied with condition 8 of Schedule 2 of PEL 16.

We have interpreted your request as pertaining to the suspension of the activity approval under PEL 16 and therefore intend to search for documents created after 14 May 2014.

If the above description is not an accurate interpretation of your request, please contact Lauren Roy by email at [lauren.roy@asic.gov.au](mailto:lauren.roy@asic.gov.au).

### **Timing for response**

We first received your request on 11 January 2015 and the 30 day statutory time frame for processing your request starts from the day after that date. You should therefore expect a decision from us by 11 February 2015. The time frame may be extended if we need to consult third parties, request charges, or for other reasons, and we will write to you if this happens.

## **FOI Disclosure Log**

Please note that information released under the FOI Act may later be published online on our disclosure log, subject to certain exceptions. For example, personal information will not be published where this would be unreasonable.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'G Hackett', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Greg Hackett**

**Authorised decision-maker under subsection 23(1) of the FOI Act  
For the Australian Securities and Investments Commission**