

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20508

May 18, 2004

The Honorable Mark Vaile MP
Minister for Trade
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

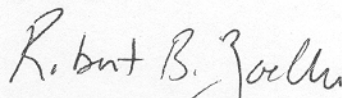
Dear Minister Vaile:

In connection with the signing on this date of the United States-Australia Free Trade Agreement (the "Agreement"), I have the honor to confirm the following understanding reached by the Governments of the United States and Australia during the course of the negotiation of Chapter Ten (Cross-Border Trade in Services) of the Agreement regarding express delivery services.

During the negotiations, the Parties discussed the definition of express delivery services in Article 10.12 (Specific Commitments). I have the honor to confirm our shared understanding that this Article does not, by itself, require any government agency to expedite the collection, transport, and delivery of any documents, printed matter, parcels, or other items.

I have the honor to propose that this letter and your letter in reply confirming that your Government shares this understanding shall constitute an integral part of the Agreement.

Sincerely,


Robert B. Zoellick



18 May 2004

The Honourable Robert B. Zoellick
United States Trade Representative
600 17th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20508

Dear Ambassador Zoellick

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of this date, which reads as follows:

“In connection with the signing on this date of the United States-Australia Free Trade Agreement (the “Agreement”), I have the honor to confirm the following understanding reached by the Governments of the United States and Australia during the course of negotiation of Chapter Ten (Cross-Border Trade in Services) of the Agreement regarding express delivery services.

During the negotiations, the Parties discussed the definition of express delivery services in Article 10.12 (Specific Commitments). I have the honor to confirm our shared understanding that this Article does not, by itself, require any government agency to expedite the collection, transport, and delivery of any documents, printed matter, parcels, or other items.

I have the honor to propose that this letter and your letter in reply confirming that your Government shares this understanding shall constitute an integral part of the Agreement.”

I have the further honour to confirm that my Government shares this understanding and that your letter and this reply shall constitute an integral part of the Australia-United States Free Trade Agreement.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Vaile'.

Mark Vaile
Minister for Trade