



THE OFFICE OF THE MINISTER FOR DEFENCE
THE HON JOEL FITZGIBBON MP

Mrs Julia Irwin MP
Chair
Standing Committee on Petitions
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

30 MAY 2008

Julia,
Dear Mrs Irwin

Thank you for your letter of 17 March 2008 concerning a petition on anti-vehicle mines.

Australia supports a global restriction on anti-vehicle mines that cannot be detected by commonly available mine detection equipment, and those remotely deployable anti-vehicle mines that are not engineered to self-destruct and self-deactivate within a set time frame. Australia does not support a total global ban on anti-vehicle mines.

The Australian Government also supports a ban on mines that are designed specifically to explode by the presence, proximity or contact of a person.

I trust this information will be of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely

JOEL FITZGIBBON