

Groom, Matthew (DPaC)

From: Groom, Matthew (DPaC)
Sent: Sunday, 13 March 2016 11:57 PM
To: James Groom
Subject: Re: My exit from Bernacchi

Thanks for letting me know James.

Matthew Groom MP
Minister for State Growth
Minister for Energy
Minister for Environment, Parks & Heritage

Sent from my iPhone

On 13 Mar 2016, at 10:17 pm, "James Groom" <james.groom@groomkennedy.com.au> wrote:

Matt

I am not prepared to allow my involvement in Bernacchi make what is a wonderful project an unnecessarily controversial one. It seems from the events of last week that the Greens in particular are determined to make an issue of my involvement and that can only be unhelpful moving forward. It is simply not fair to my fellow consortium members.

Accordingly, I have today effected a sale of my entire shareholding in Bernacchi Lodge Pty Ltd to one of the other existing shareholders. I have also resigned as a director (Chairman) and company secretary with immediate effect.

This is most regrettable and frankly unfair, but in all the circumstances I felt it was the sensible thing to do. It was not a material investment and I suspect neither you or I need the grief. I would simply ask that that the point be reiterated both internally and externally as required that our consortium's lease over Bernacchi (and thus my interest) resulted from decisions of the previous Government, not the current one! I am of course aware that there may have arisen the potential for conflict scenarios in the future but I am sure they could and would have been appropriately managed – just as they have been with other matters before. In any event, I have removed the issue.

Finally, I do think it is important that there be some thought given to implementing a systematic conflicts identification/referral/management process for these sorts of interests in the future. The sovereign risk issue works both ways. The fact is most people don't understand how conflicts work at all and that gives great leeway for political troublemaking, ignorant views and inappropriate outcomes. I think codifying how these issues are handled would greatly help.

By the way, the refurbished Bernacchi will be a great piece of hospitality infrastructure for our state and I am very proud to have been associated with bringing it back from the dead.

Keep up the good work.

Regards
James

James Groom

Director

<image001.jpg>

Level 1- 47 Sandy Bay Road, Hobart TAS 7000 | PO Box 22, Battery Point TAS 7004

D +61 3 6221 4802 | F +61 3 6221 4899 | Mob +61 418 235 658 | <image002.gif> | <image003.gif>

E james.groom@groomkennedy.com.au | groomkennedy.com.au

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RTI-DL-RELEASE-DPIPWE

Groom, Matthew (DPaC)

From: James Groom <james.groom@groomkennedy.com.au>
Sent: Sunday, 13 March 2016 10:18 PM
To: Groom, Matthew (DPaC)
Subject: My exit from Bernacchi

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James Groom
Director



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