



Australia's First Bank

Westpac Banking Corporation
ABN 33 007 457 141

17 December 2008

The Manager
Company Announcements
ASX Limited
20 Bridge Street
Sydney NSW 2000

Dear Sir / Madam,

Westpac Banking Corporation ("Westpac") - Section 708A(5)(e) Notice - Shares Issued Under the Dividend Reinvestment Plan Underwriting Agreement

Westpac has today issued 53,567,061 fully paid ordinary shares ("Shares") at a price of A\$16.55 per Share pursuant to an underwriting agreement dated 29 October 2008 entered into with J.P. Morgan Australia Limited in respect of the 2008 final dividend.

Westpac gives notice under section 708A(5)(e) of the Corporations Act 2001 (Cth) ("Act") that:

1. Westpac issued the Shares without disclosure to investors under Part 6D.2 of the Act;
2. as at the date of this notice, Westpac has complied with;
 - (a) the provisions of Chapter 2M of the Act as they apply to Westpac;
 - (b) section 674 of the Act; and
3. as at the date of this notice, there is no information that is "excluded information" within the meaning of sections 708A(7) and 708A(8) of the Act.



John Arthur
Group Executive, Counsel and Secretariat

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