

Acton Edward Prof (VCO)

From: ALASTAIRMUIR RUSSELL [REDACTED]
Sent: 03 December 2009 00:11
To: Acton Edward Prof (VCO)
Subject: RE: CRU Review at UEA
Attachments: MR comments - Draft Statement - CRU.doc; MR biog - UEA.docx

Edward

Thanks. I am happy to sign up on this basis.

I attach a version of the draft press notice with some comments - I would be content for it to go out tomorrow as you wish.

If you need a short biog, this is attached.

Please send me final versions of what goes into the public domain.

Muir

--- On **Wed, 2/12/09, Acton Edward Prof (VCO)** [REDACTED] wrote:

From: Acton Edward Prof (VCO) [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: CRU Review at UEA
To: "ALASTAIRMUIR RUSSELL" [REDACTED]
Date: Wednesday, 2 December, 2009, 21:38


Dear Muir

Following up our conversation while you were in a taxi.

I attach a draft of the announcement we would propose making about you taking on the Independent Review. See what you think, including the efficacy of those final two sentences attributed to you, designed to bring home to the Press that you will immediately need peace and scoping time.

On the points you itemised:

1. Yes it is essential that you have a free hand to draw on the range of expertise you identify as necessary.
2. I think the independence of the Review will be strengthened by us giving you a free hand to recruit that additional expert input. If the names emerge as chosen by us, the whitewash charge could appear. A crisp announcement that you are conducting the Review with a free hand will, I think, underscore your control and independence.
3. Yes, we have very clear advice from a strong range of interests to organise an Independent Review along precisely these lines. [REDACTED]

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4. Yes, the 19 February timescale could be tight. We propose to use the words 'by early spring', if that is agreeable. It would be excellent if it turns out you can manage by end-February.
 5. Yes, that number of days' work sounds just the right sort of thing.

As I suggested in my email this morning, might I propose a fee a bit higher, £40k, to complete the report. Plus travel, accommodation and administrative support. We will cover fees charged for the additional expertise you need, and for such non-UEA administrative support as you require.

I believe news that you are taking charge of the Review will inspire the deep confidence required and give the Review unimpeachable authority and independence. Do let me know if there are any other nuances for adjustment. Were you content, the advice to me is that the ideal is for us to announce your name tomorrow, Thursday 3. The fact that UUK meets all day Friday 4 makes that timing particularly salient within the Sector.

With best wishes

Edward