

STOCK EXCHANGE OF NEWCASTLE LIMITED

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20th of April 2004

Mr Larry Voltz Pioneer Permanent Building Society Cnr Victoria & Macalister Sts Mackay QLD 4740

Fax - 07 4957 8841

Re: Trading Halt Imposed on Release of Market Sensitive Information

Dear Mr Voltz,

The NSX has imposed a trading halt as follows:

Business Rule	87.1(a) release of market sensitive information
	during trading hours
Start of Halt	11:30 am 20 April 2004
Pre-Open	12:00 pm 20 April 2004
End of Halt	12:15 pm 20 April 2004

Yours Sincerely

Scott Evans
General Manager