



N° LGB 03/103

The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade presents its compliments to the Embassy of the United States of America and has the honour to refer to the Embassy's notes N° 66 dated 13 May 2003 and N° 73 dated 29 May 2003, requesting Public Vessel Status for the vessel "Melville" to undertake research within the Australian Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) from 28 May to 17 July 2003 and call at the Australian ports of Port Hedland on 15 to 20 June and Darwin from 17 to 20 July 2003.

The Department has the honour to inform the Embassy that the Australian Government has approved the above request subject to the following conditions:

Berthing

In berthing, the vessel shall comply with directions of the local port authorities.

Quarantine

Normal quarantine procedures will be followed on arrival of the vessel at port.

Foodstuffs, animal or plant products and waste shall not be brought ashore on mainland Australia or Australian off-shore islands and reefs. The Australian Quarantine Inspection Service has introduced Australian ballast water management procedures. If the vessel carries ballast water and proposes to deballast in Australian waters, this must be done in accordance with Australian regulations.