



Office of the Ethics Commissioner  
Bureau du commissaire à l'éthique

66, rue Slater Street  
22<sup>e</sup> étage / 22nd Floor  
OTTAWA, ONTARIO  
CANADA  
K1A 0A6

**PROTECTED - PERSONAL INFORMATION**

May 16, 2006

The Honourable James Michael Flaherty, P.C., M.P.  
Minister of Finance  
L'Esplanade Laurier  
140 O'Connor Street  
21st Floor, East Tower  
Ottawa, ON  
K1A 0G5

Dear Minister:

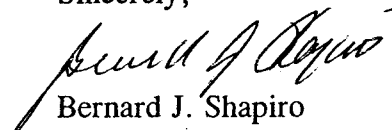
This letter is in response to your request for advice on May 11, 2006, in relation to your role as Minister of Finance with regard to the Budget measure on accelerating capital cost allowance for forestry bioenergy, and the ownership interest of your brother in Dorset Industrial Chemicals, Inc. ("Dorset").

Based on the information you have thus far provided my Office, and on condition that your Department can confirm to you that a company such as Dorset would not be eligible to avail itself of this particular budgetary measure, I am of the opinion that you are not in a conflict of interest in this situation.

This communication constitutes confidential advice to you as a client of this Office. As we discussed, if you choose to make this advice public, then it should be released in its entirety.

I appreciate your prompt action to clarify your obligations under the *Conflict of Interest and Post-Employment Code for Public Office Holders*. If you have any other questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

  
Bernard J. Shapiro  
Ethics Commissioner