



Australia's First Bank

Group Secretariat

Level 25, 60 Martin Place
GPO Box 1 (IBN 7MP)
SYDNEY NSW 2000
Telephone: (61 2) 9216 0390
Facsimile: (61 2) 9226 1888

30 December 2004

Company Announcements Platform
Australian Stock Exchange Limited
20 Bridge Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Sir/Madam

Issue of shares pursuant to exercise of employee share plan option

The following number of fully paid ordinary shares have been/will be allotted pursuant to the exercise of options under the Westpac's Senior Officers' Share Purchase Scheme, the General Management Share Option Plan, Westpac Performance Plan and/or Chief Executive Share Agreement:

Number	Exercise Price	Allotment Date	Ranking
15,000	\$9.53	30 December 2004	Rank equally
90,910	\$13.32	30 December 2004	Rank equally
105,910			

Paid up and quoted capital: 1,794,519,767 fully paid ordinary shares.

Yours faithfully

Emma Lawler
Head of Group Secretariat (Acting)