



17 January 2007

POTENTIAL ACQUISITION OF LINDE GAS PTY LTD

The Australian Competition and Consumers Commission (ACCC) has approved Wesfarmers as purchaser of Linde Gas Pty Ltd, satisfying one of the remaining conditions for the proposed transaction. The approval is in response to an application from LindeAG pursuant to its undertaking with the ACCC to divest Linde Gas Pty Ltd as a result of its global merger with The BOC Group plc.

Wesfarmers announced its proposed acquisition on 27 November 2006. Subject to there being no material adverse change to the business, Wesfarmers expects to complete the transaction at the beginning of February 2007.

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