NOTICE OF INVESTIGATION

Section 196G of the
Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986

The Repatriation Medical Authority (the Authority) gives notice under section 196G of the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986* (the VEA) that it intends to carry out an investigation pursuant to ss.196B(4) of the VEA to find out whether a Statement of Principles may be determined in respect of **fibrosing alveolitis.**

It should be noted that this notice of investigation expands the scope of the previous notice issued by the Authority in the Government Notices Gazette of 15 June 2005 to review the contents of Statements of Principles concerning **idiopathic fibrosing alveolitis** (Instrument Nos. 15 and 16 of 1998).

The Authority invites the following persons and organisations to make written submissions to the Authority in respect of the investigation:

- any person eligible to make a claim for pension under Part II or Part IV of the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986*;
- any person eligible to make a claim for compensation under section 319 of the *Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 2004* (the MRCA);
- an organisation representing veterans, Australian mariners, members of the Forces, members of the Peacekeeping Forces, members within the meaning of the MRCA, or their dependants;
- the Repatriation Commission or the Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Commission; and
- any person having expertise in a field relevant to the investigation.

The Authority will hold its first meeting for the purposes of this investigation on **4 February 2008.**

Under the VEA, the Authority is required to find out whether there is information available about how **fibrosing alveolitis** may be suffered or contracted, or death from **fibrosing alveolitis** may occur; and the extent to which **fibrosing alveolitis** or death from **fibrosing alveolitis** may be war-caused, defence-caused, a service injury, a service disease or a service death. Persons and organisations wishing to make a submission should obtain from the Repatriation Medical Authority Secretariat (at the address and phone number below) a copy of the *Repatriation Medical Authority Submission Guidelines.*

All submissions must be in writing and received by the Authority at the address below no later than **25 January 2008.** The date for the receipt of submissions in regard to the earlier advertised investigation, concerning **idiopathic fibrosing alveolitis**, is also extended to **25 January 2008.**

The Common Seal of the)
Repatriation Medical Authority)
was affixed in the presence of)

KEN DONALD
CHAIRPERSON 1/11/2007

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