



Office of Hon Craig Foss

MP for Tukituki

Minister of Commerce
Minister of Consumer Affairs

Minister of Broadcasting
Associate Minister for ACC

29 MAY 2013

Mr Martin Goetz
marty@goetzassociates.com

Dear Mr Goetz

Thank you for your email of 10 May 2013 regarding amendments to the computer program provisions in the Patents Bill.

I agree with you that a person should be able to get a patent on a true invention and the fact that an invention may employ a computer program should not automatically disqualify the invention from patent protection.

The recent amendments to the Patents Bill are to clarify that a patent may not be granted for an invention that involves or uses a computer program if the sole inventive feature is that it is a computer program. It will still be possible, however, for a patent to be granted for an invention that makes use of or comprises a computer program if the actual contribution made by the invention lies outside the computer program.

I appreciate receiving your comments on this matter.

Yours sincerely

Hon Craig Foss
Minister of Commerce