PR 2006/3W - Income tax: Palandri Winegrape Project 2005 - 2006 Growers (using finance from Palandri Finance Ltd)

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This document has changed over time. This is a consolidated version of the ruling which was published on 12 January 2011

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Product Ruling

Income tax: Palandri Winegrape Project 2005 – 2006 Growers (using finance from Palandri Finance Ltd)

This Ruling provides you with the following level of protection:

This publication (excluding appendices) is a public ruling for the purposes of the *Taxation Administration Act 1953*.

A public ruling is an expression of the Commissioner's opinion about the way in which a relevant provision applies, or would apply, to entities generally or to a class of entities in relation to a particular scheme or a class of schemes. If you rely on this ruling, we must apply the law to you in the way set out in the ruling (or in a way that is more favourable for you if we are satisfied that the ruling is incorrect and disadvantages you, and we are not prevented from doing so by a time limit imposed by the law). You will be protected from having to pay any under-paid tax, penalty or interest in respect of the matters covered by this ruling if it turns out that it does not correctly state how the relevant provision applies to you.

[Note: This is a consolidated version of this document. Refer to the ATO Legal Database (http://law.ato.gov.au) to check its currency and to view the details of all changes.]

Withdrawal

- 1. Product Ruling PR 2006/3 set out the Commissioner's view on the tax consequences for entities who participated as 2006 Growers in the Palandri Winegrape Project 2005 (the Project) by entering into a Lease and Management Agreement for the purpose of carrying on a commercial viticulture business. The Ruling was withdrawn on 1 July 2008 as interests in the Project were no longer being sold.
- 2. Although withdrawn, the Ruling continues to apply to Growers who were accepted to participate in the Project between 15 February 2006 and 15 June 2006. It therefore could be relied upon subject to there being no material difference in the arrangement, or in the Growers' involvement in the arrangement.
- 3. PR 2006/3 ruled that Growers could claim deductions for specified Project expenses and interest on loans from Palandri Finance Ltd, although the deductibility of losses was subject to the non-commercial loss rules in Division 35 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997* (Division 35). The Commissioner exercised his discretion to allow losses to be offset against other assessable income until the 2009-10 income year.

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- 4. On 24 September 2008 the Supreme Court of Western Australia ordered that the scheme be wound up. The termination of the Project's Agreements constituted a material difference to the scheme described in PR 2006/3 and meant that Growers were no longer carrying on their own business.
- 5. For the 2008-09 year, Growers may offset any losses incurred from the Project until 19 March 2009, the date the agreements were terminated. After that date, losses are no longer subject to Division 35, although no further Project fees were incurred from that date.
- 6. Whilst Growers will not be carrying on business after the termination of their agreements, those funding their participation in the Project through Palandri Finance Ltd may have incurred interest expenses after 19 March 2009. Where a business activity has ceased, ongoing interest will continue to be deductible unless an event or circumstance occurs to break the connection between the loan and the business activity. Where a loan is refinanced, renegotiated or the purpose of the loan is otherwise altered, the connection to the income earning activity may be broken and the interest may no longer be deductible. For more information refer to paragraph 50 of Taxation Ruling TR 2004/4 which provides guidance on what needs to be considered to determine if the necessary connection still exists following the cessation of relevant income earning activities.

Commissioner of Taxation

15 February 2006

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