



Regulation

IMF agrees to fund new Lehman action

18-June-09 by Staff Reporters

Litigation funder IMF (Australia) has agreed to provide funding on behalf of hundreds of Lehman Brothers Australia investors, including local councils and charities, over the losses from collateralised debt obligations (CDOs). In a notice to the stock market, IMF said it will fund the litigation on behalf of CDOs investors, also including corporations, churches, universities and individual investors, which could reach up to 600. Managing director Hugh McLernon said around 308 investors were directly involved with Lehman Bros Australia, however that number could double once other entities within the Lehman group and third parties were included. He said the company is currently funding a Federal Court application to set aside a deed of company

arrangement (DOCA) executed by the administrators of Lehman Bros Australia.

IMF to fund Great Southern legal action

17-June-09 by AAP

Litigation funder IMF (Australia) has agreed to fund a group action by some investors in the cattle projects of agricultural projects manager Great Southern. The agreement to fund legal action in the Western Australian Supreme Court against companies within the Great Southern group, and various directors of those companies, is subject to enough members of the cattle projects participating in the litigation, IMF says. Great Southern, which managed 45 forestry, horticulture and cattle schemes on behalf of 43,000 investors, called in administrators on May 16 after its cashflow dried up and it was unable to draw more support from its bankers. Figures show Great Southern had liabilities of \$996.4

million, including loans and borrowings of \$833.9 million at April 30, 2009. The company owed about \$600 million to its banks.

Alcoa in legal stoush over Wagerup

12-June-09 by Rebecca Lawson

Alcoa has vowed to defend any legal action launched by residents and spearheaded by celebrity activist Erin Brockovich over the company's Wagerup refinery. In a statement, the company said it was aware that legal action has been filed in the United States relating to health concerns over its Wagerup facility, located around 120 kilometres south of Perth. The action has been filed on behalf of former and current residents of towns located near the refinery by Queensland firm Shine Lawyers. Alcoa Australia managing director Alan Cransberg said in a statement that the "allegations are without merit".