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OFFICE OF GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE  
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

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**TO:** GOVERNOR  
**FROM:** RILEY  
**SUBJECT:** FED EX INFORMS HOUSTON SOLAR CAR IT CAN'T SHIP CAR BACK TO AMERICA  
**DATE** 8/12/03  
**CC:** RENICK

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You'll remember that you spoke to Fred Smith sometime during the fall of 2001 (probably in September or October) and he agreed to have Fed Ex fly the Houston Solar Car, *Sundancer*, to the international race in Australia this fall. We announced this at the State Board of Education meeting on October 19, 2001.

I hooked Danny Lantrip, Houston's Vo-Tech Director, up with Sabrina Smith at Fed Ex. She later transferred the project to Lisa Daniel in Fed Ex's Community Relations Division. Lisa emailed me on July 31 that Larry Ashkenaz in Air Freight Plans and Programs would be setting up all of the arrangements with Mr. Lantrip for transport.

Please see the attached email that I just got from Mr. Lantrip. According to him, everything was on go when he spoke to Lisa Daniel earlier today. He then received the attached email from her later in the day stating that Fed Ex could ship the car to Australia, but couldn't ship it home.

I may be wrong, but I assumed that Fed Ex would ship the car both ways. According to Mr. Lantrip's email, he had previously asked about it being round trip passage and there apparently was no problem. He had no indication that Fed Ex was only going to ship one way until he received the attached email.

I think you need to call Fred Smith and talk to him. Marilyn says the only way to get in touch with Smith is via the main Fed Ex number, which is 901-369-3600. Of course, we are most appreciative of Fed Ex's generosity, but this has thrown a huge kink in the plans, especially given that the international race in Australia is only 1 ½ months away in October. The students in Houston have won the American race 3 consecutive years and their work exemplifies the innovative projects in our public schools, especially using technology. We really need Fed Ex to come through on the return trip.

I'll make sure everyone in Houston knows you took care of this situation.