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UNIQUE & DIVERSE REGION

MEETING THE CHALLENGES OF OUR

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Water - General
PLEASE QUOTE THIS REFERENCE

March 25, 2011

Michael Deegan
National Infrastructure Coordinator
Infrastructure Australia
PO Box 594
Canberra ACT 2601

Dear Sir

Kyogle Council response to the Regional Towns Water Quality and Security Review.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the above report prepared by AEOCOM Australia Pty Ltd.

Kyogle Council is a member of the Northern Rivers Regional Organisation of Councils (NOROC) and the New South Wales Water Directorate. Both of these organisations have made submissions to the review on behalf of their members and Council endorses those submissions.

The Report of the Independent Inquiry into Secure and Sustainable Urban Water Supply Services for Non Metropolitan NSW by The Hon I Armstrong and Dr C Gellatly in 2008 is listed as a reference in the Aecom Report and the following submission from Council to that report is still Council's position in regard to reform of Water supply and Sewerage services in New South Wales.

- a) *Council would consider entering into a "Binding Alliance" with the Councils of Ballina, Byron, Lismore, Richmond Valley and ROUS County Council, as per Appendix 6: Option 1 – Regional Aggregation (32 Groups), after the Binding Alliance Model has been trialed by LWUs in another region, and the Binding Alliance Model has been evaluated in terms of its efficiency and effectiveness in achieving the required outcomes, including consistent compliance with water quality and environmental standards, higher incidence of integrated water cycle management planning amongst local water utilities and improved financial position to fund future capital works, and*
- b) *That the recommendations of the Report of the Independent Inquiry into Secure and Sustainable Urban Water Supply and Sewerage Services for Non-Metropolitan NSW should be implemented in stages as follows;*

Stage 1 – “Cut Red Tape”

Recommendation 5 to be completed by state government as soon as possible

Stage 2 – “Mandate Best Practice”

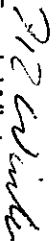
Recommendations 3, 4, and 6 implemented once state government agencies roles and responsibilities have been streamlined

Stage 3 – “Regional Aggregation”

Recommendations 1 and 2 to be implemented by LWUs on a voluntary basis.”

Should you have any further enquiries please do not hesitate to contact Frank Winter of Council's Technical Services Department on (02) 6632 0221.

Yours faithfully



Frank Winter

Director Technical Services