

Council's Reference:

**BW/AP**

Telephone Enquiries to:

**Brian Wilkinson**

**RICHMOND**

V A L L E Y

*Valley of Surprises!*

24 March 2011

Mr Michael Deegan  
Infrastructure Australia  
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Dear Sir

Reference is made to the report on the Regional Towns Water Quality and Security Review.

Richmond Valley Council provides the following feedback in respect to the review:

- the integrity of the information in the review is questioned given that there was no consultation with key players (e.g. local government/state agencies) and those that hold relevant data in respect to water utility activities
- assessment of the review documents raises doubts about the accuracy of key findings
- the Local Water Utilities Review and processes that have occurred in NSW over recent years (which are still to be finalised) appears to have been ignored
- the abilities of local government to manage local water utilities has been disregarded
- the potential ramifications of the review recommendations do not appear to consider regional communities
- the roles and responsibilities of the Regional Water Corporations are not clear.

In summary, Richmond Valley Council requests that further discussions be held with local government prior to any implementation or action on the report findings/recommendations.

Yours faithfully



**Brian Wilkinson**  
**General Manager**

*All correspondence should be addressed to:*

**The General Manager,  
RICHMOND VALLEY COUNCIL**

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