

21 February, 2011

Our Ref. No.: JN/KR  
Our File No.: 09-12-026A  
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Committee Secretary  
Senate Standing Committee on Rural Affairs and Transport  
PO Box 6100  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Sir/Madam

**INQUIRY INTO THE IMPACT OF THE MURRAY-DARLING BASIN PLAN IN  
REGIONAL AUSTRALIA**

The Northern Grampians Shire Council recently considered a report on the above inquiry, and formally resolved to:

*“Support the seeking of commitments from Federal and State governments to reduce the social and economic impacts that will be felt by all rural communities caused by the implementation of the Murray-Darling Basin Plan”.*

Whilst it is uncertain just what the long term impacts of the Plan will be on the Northern Grampians communities, Council is hopeful that the report from the inquiry will address some of this uncertainty and identify opportunities for improved economic and social outcomes, as well as environmental outcomes.

The Northern Grampians Shire has been significantly impacted in recent years by natural disasters including fire, drought and flood, and Council is acutely aware of water as a precious resource, and welcomes consideration of the Murray-Darling Basin Plan.

Council commends the Government for undertaking such an inquiry on this important issue and looks forward to receiving the final report.

Yours faithfully

**JIM NOLAN**  
**DIRECTOR – INFRASTRUCTURE & ENVIRONMENT**

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