Outback Highway Development Council

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The Outback Highway Development Council consists of Local Governments from Western Australia, Northern Territory and Queensland

Mr Ian Dundas Committee Secretary Standing Committee on Primary Industries and Regional Services House of Representatives Parliament House CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Mr Dundas

Thank you for inviting the Outback Highway Development Council to contribute to your Committee's Inquiry into Infrastructure and the Development of Australia's Regional Areas.

The Outback Highway Development Council believes an upgraded strategic third road link across the centre of Australia will realise substantial gains, not only for the regional areas the road passes through, but also for Australia as a whole. The importance of reliable road transport infrastructure to this nation's economy cannot be overstated, and we feel the anticipated results of an upgraded Outback Highway are an excellent example of the kind of benefits that can accrue from investment in public assets of this type.

This Council's submission to your inquiry is attached, and I urge you to consider its contents when making your recommendations to Parliament.

Once again, thank you for the opportunity to contribute in this manner, and I look forward to reading your Committee's final report when it becomes available.

Yours sincerely

Patrick Hill Chairman

23 April 1999