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SUBMISSION TO THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE REFORM OF THE AUSTRALIAN FEDERATION

The Regional Development Australia Peel Inc. committee makes this submission subsequent to its original submission of July 13, 2010.

The original submission raised a number of issues, particularly in regard to:

- Effective use of the RDA network by Government
- Funding for community and social initiatives
- Resourcing of RDA activities

The majority of these concerns for the RDA Peel committee have been alleviated through a number of occurrences, including:

- Outcome of the 2010 Federal election with a renewed focus on Regional Australia
- Formation of the Department of Regional Australia, Regional Development & Local Government (DRARDLG)
- Appointment of The Hon Simon Crean MP as Minister
- Announcements relating to regional funding opportunities through programs such as the Regional Infrastructure Fund (RDA stream), Priority Regional Infrastructure Program and the Better Regional Cities Program

It has become apparent that the Australian Government and DRARDLG have heard the concerns of Regional Australia and the RDA network and are working towards a more effective and coordinated response to regional issues.

The RDA Peel committee feels that, due to these recent changes, its original submission is no longer accurate or relevant and sees no value in giving evidence at hearings of the Select Committee on the Reform of the Australian Government.

Thank you for the opportunity to reconsider our submission.



An Australian Government Initiative

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Richards', written over a horizontal dotted line.

Coral Richards

Chair

February 11, 2011.