

Four Post Youth Camp Inc.



P O Box 1084 Deniliquin NSW 2710

Standing Committee on Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government PO Box 6021 Parliament House CANBERRA ACT 2600

7 July 2008

Dear Sir/Madam

Re: Inquiry into New Regional Development Funding Program

I write on behalf of the Four Post Youth Camp Inc. management committee who was the recipient of a Regional Partnerships program grant in 2003, and in support of the existing system - Regional Infrastructure Funding Program through the Area Consultative Committee concept.

The availability of a Regional Infrastructure Funding Program to rural and regional communities promotes the following:

- Exposes small community committees to sizeable infrastructure funding that would otherwise be beyond their capacity to fund locally
- Sizeable funding for project completion enables community committees to expediently complete a project as opposed to intermittent fundraising exercises
- The current program requires local community and corporate participation to support the project. This support is forthcoming if a specific project has clear direction, appropriate capital and realistic timetable for completion.
- The current project (Four Post Youth Camp accommodation extension) has enhanced social capital within our community.
 - The camp operates through a large volunteer component
 - Community participation and private enterprise have continued to support the youth camp project
 - The youth camp project continues to generate income for the wider rural community.

This is a result of a successful Regional Infrastructure Funding Program.

The committee is of the opinion that the Area Consultative Committee concept is a successful infrastructure system for the following reasons:

- The Central Murray Area Consultative Committee (CMACC) was able to assess our proposal and determine eligibility to meet funding criteria.
- CMACC was able to guide the committee through the legislative process required prior to submission Local Government building and development requirements, Environmental Planning Investigation and Crown Land development requirements.
- CMACC offered monitoring and review support to submission development.
- CMACC oversaw the grant acquittal process throughout and on completion of the project.
- The Area Consultative Committee structure enables local community committees to further advance their projects in a constructive, expedient and cost effective manner.

The Four Post Youth Camp Inc. committee believe that the continuation of a Regional Infrastructure funded project is paramount to the further development of rural and regional centres.

Yours faithfully

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E.R. Murphy Secretary Four Post Youth Camp Inc.

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