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6th April 2005

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The Secretary Standing Committee on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs House of Representatives Parliament House CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Sir/Madam

I refer to the Terms of Reference which the Standing Committee has into the Inquiry on Indigenous Employment.

My Council has regular meetings with the Ngarrindjeri Heritage Committee and the Ngarrindjeri Native Title Committee, which has lead to very strong and positive working relationships between Council and the two Committees.

The Committees have talked at various times concerning possibilities of engaging an indigenous person to work with Council on community, cultural and art projects, but at this time has not been able to achieve any employment outcomes due to limited financial resources.

It is our view that where communities such as ours can demonstrate working structures in place to address areas of mutual concern, then maybe these programs can be funded by the Federal Government to enable us to achieve positive outcomes for all concerned.

As a gesture of our willingness to advance indigenous employment, we would be willing to meet with the appropriate Government agency with a view to establishing dialogue on a pilot employment process.

Kind regards

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JOHN L COOMBE OHIEF EXECUTIVE

ALEXANDRINA COUNCIL ABN 20 785 405 351 Preserving the Past – Securing the Future

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