

Rebecca Vassarotti MLA

Minister for the Environment

Minister for Heritage

Minister for Homelessness and Housing Services

Minister for Sustainable Building and Construction

Member for Kurrajong

22/83479

Mr Ben Ponton

Chief Planning Executive

Planning and Land Authority

Environment Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate

ben.ponton@act.gov.au

Dear Mr Ponton

I am writing to consult with you about the requirement to review the *ACT Environmental Offsets Policy, April 2015* that is established under part 6A.2 of the *Planning and Development Act 2007* (the Act).

Pursuant to s.111G of the Act, as the Minister responsible for administering the *Nature Conservation Act 2014*, I am required to consider at least every five years whether the offsets policy needs to be reviewed. In making this decision, I am required to consult with both the planning and land authority and the Conservator of Flora and Fauna.

I believe that a review of the offsets policy is timely given the potential opportunities and implications for the ACT resulting from the Commonwealth's *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* reform process. However, pursuant to my responsibilities under the Act I seek your opinion on this matter by **[three weeks from Minister's signature]**.

Thank you for your assistance with this policy issue. Please note that I have provided a copy of this letter to the Minister for Planning and Land Management, Mick Gentleman MLA, for his awareness.

Yours sincerely

Rebecca Vassarotti MLA

