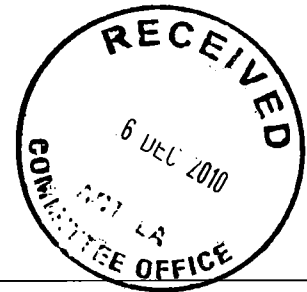




Hon Tony Kelly MLC
Minister for Planning
Minister for Infrastructure
Minister for Lands
Deputy Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Leader of the House in the Legislative Council



Ms Margie Morrison
Secretary
Standing Committee on Climate Change, Environment and Water
ACT Legislative Assembly
GPO Box 1020
CANBERRA ACT 2601

10/22100

Dear Ms Morrison

I thank you for the invitation to make a submission to the ACT Standing Committee inquiry into the ecological carrying capacity of the ACT and region.

While the NSW Government does not intend to make a detailed technical submission to the inquiry, as the NSW Minister for Planning I wish to ensure the inquiry acknowledges the future population (26,100 additional population/14,200 additional dwellings) and economic growth (17,000 jobs/140 ha additional employment land) that is forecast for those areas of NSW that are proximate to the ACT over the next 25 years. The relevant strategic documents are the Sydney-Canberra Corridor Regional Strategy and the Queanbeyan Residential and Economic Strategy 2031, both of which may be found on the NSW Department of Planning website.

The Department of Planning has been liaising with the ACT Chief Minister's Office for some time over planning issues in the cross border region. It may be that a stronger mechanism for ongoing consultation and collaboration is needed in the future for the planning and implementation of strategic outcomes in the region.

The NSW Government has a policy of allowing surplus supplies of zoned and serviced land to enable a flexible approach to emerging development opportunities. I further request the inquiry make no assumptions that could limit the capacity of NSW to respond to investment opportunities as they arise.

Should you have any further enquiries about this matter, I have arranged for Mr Brett Whitworth, Regional Director, Southern Region of the Department of Planning, to assist. Mr Whitworth can be contacted on telephone number (02) 4224 9455.

Yours sincerely

Tony Kelly MLC
Minister for Planning

- 1 DEC 2010