

Office of the Director General

Mr Robert Campbell General Manager Gunnedah Shire Council PO Box 63 GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

11/04063

Dear Mr Campbell

I refer to your submission of the Namoi 2030 – Regional Resource Strategy in accordance with the requirements of the Planning Reform Fund Memorandum of Understanding.

Thank you for forwarding the final version of the draft Strategy to the Department. The Department is satisfied that the Strategy has been completed in accordance with the MoU and can now be considered by the participating Councils for adoption.

It is recommended that when adopting the Strategy, Council should consider amending the title of Scenario 4 – Ultimate Economic Opportunity (the best of everything). This title could be misconstrued as promoting one particular land use outcome over another. It is also recommended that consultation be undertaken with the relevant Government agencies and authorities in regard to the proposed key triggers and actions prior to finalising the Strategy.

As you would be aware the Department is preparing a Coal and Gas Strategy and I will ensure that the Department consults closely with Council on the implications of any future growth in this sector as it relates to the Gunnedah Basin.

As the project has now been completed, it would be appreciated if an invoice for the Planning Reform monies still being held by the Department could be forwarded by Council to enable the final payments to be made.

Should you have any further enquiries about this matter, I have arranged for Mr Jon Stone at the Department's Tamworth Office to assist you. He can be contacted on telephone number 6701 9688.

Yours sincerely

Sam Haddad

Director General