



The Heart of NSW

24 March 2011

Contact Person: **George Cowan**
Reference No: **50927**

Mr Michael Deegan
Infrastructure Coordinator
Infrastructure Australia
mail@infrastructureaustralia.gov.au

Dear Michael,

RE: AECOM report into the security and quality of water utilities

Please find attached a joint response from the Lower Macquarie Water Utilities Alliance (LMWUA) and Centroc to the AECOM report into the security and quality of water utilities in Australia.

Lachlan Shire Council endorses this report and commends it to you as our position.

As a member of the Centroc Water Utilities Alliance, we have been engaged in the delivery of secure, quality water supplies for our communities; see for example the national award winning Centroc Water Security Study. Further advice in this regard forms part of the attached report.

As a water utility in NSW we are obliged and welcome the delivery of well monitored best practice water and sewerage services using an integrated water cycle management model approach.

Both keeping costs to our communities to a minimum and control over water supply in the hands at local level is integral to the resilience of regional NSW, where Centroc members collectively have a bigger GDP than Tasmania.

I commend to you the Centroc Water Utilities Alliance model. Put quite simply, bigger is not better and the tyranny of distance in NSW does not lend itself to “mega” water utilities.

I am available at any time to discuss this matter. Please contact me by phoning 02 6895 1900.

Yours sincerely

George Cowan
General Manger

Lachlan Shire Council

P PO Box 216 Condobolin NSW 2877 A 58-64 Molong Street Condobolin NSW 2877
T (02) 6895 1900 F (02) 6895 3478 E council@lachlan.nsw.gov.au W www.lachlan.nsw.gov.au

