

Len Wheatley  
NSW  
PH:  
FX:

Monday, 5 January 2004

Productivity Commissioner

**RE: Submission on draft report**

You have correctly identified a major problem (draft report page therewith) that regulation essentially asserts public ownership on private landowners.

This should then recognised by local government Council's, Land Valuation from the Valuer General's department and NSW Rural Land Boards and be identified for the purpose of rating land holders to make sure the rightful rateable situation has been determined.

I have enclosed a copy of the draft report page 279 as argued by myself and other interested parties that the Commission highlights in the final report to the Federal Parliament the above copy with supporting information.

I would also ask the Commission to highlight the South Australian Farmers Federation argument that where the principles of proper administrative behaviour have been breached.

This to me as a layman is breaking the laws and acts of the Australian Crime Authority and other agencies.

I also note that on page three of the Weekly Times date August 20, 2003 (copy enclosed) of farmers being in fear of being persecuted. This to me is a rural crime of major proportion across Australia and should be investigated by the appropriate authorities.

In conclusion I ask also in your final report that all local government bodies across Australia be asked the following and be placed on the business papers to come before Council's across Australia and to be voted on a confirmative yes or a confirmative no:

Did property and landowners have existing use rights to all natural resources (including water) on their holdings, use as they wished from the granting of ownership from the Crown to present day use?

There then it may be identified if any regulation laws or acts have been wrongly administered.

I come back to page 279 of your draft report argued by myself and others the responsibility of local government must clearly identify existing use rights property rights on land and water

and the ecosystems must be clearly identified by local government before, native vegetation and biodiversity decisions can be made.

We congratulate the Commissioners and their staff for their draft report.

Yours sincerely

Len Wheatley