

Australia ICOMOS

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Heritage Inquiry
Productivity Commission
PO Box 80
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Attention: Mr Neil Byron

Dear Mr Byron

Thank you for the opportunity to present our submission to you last Friday. Richard, Duncan and I felt that we received a courteous and attentive hearing.

I would confirm the main points of our submission:

- the present heritage system is working well but is capable of improvement in some areas;
- we feel that more of the potential improvements that you have identified in the analysis section of your report could be addressed in the recommendations; and
- while we support the use of voluntary conservation agreements (not necessarily tied to listing) as one means of conserving individual heritage items in certain cases, we believe that they should be part of a wider range of possible measures for achieving conservation outcomes. For example, if there are problems with a small percentage of listed heritage places such as rural buildings, the targeted use of agreements to support the conservation of such buildings would appear a very worthwhile option.

If it would assist the Commission, Australia ICOMOS would be pleased to act as a sounding board to discuss other possible options for conserving individual heritage items, especially those of local significance.

Yours sincerely

President, Australia ICOMOS