

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY



Australian Government
**Department of Resources,
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Dr Warren Mundy
Commissioner
Productivity Commission
GPO Box 1428
CANBERRA CITY ACT 2601

Dear Dr Mundy

The Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism welcomes the findings of the Productivity Commission's draft report - Role of Local Government as Regulator and would support the adoption of leading practices to reduce unnecessary regulatory burdens on businesses and enhances Australia's productivity and economic growth. Please find enclosed the Department's submission on the report which builds on issues raised in the submission I sent to you on 14 November 2011. This submission seeks to provide information on areas identified in the report as needing further investigation.

The resources, energy and tourism sectors are key drivers of the Australian economy, underpinning the competitiveness of regions, industries and business across the economy. These sectors are at the forefront of the economic and environmental challenges facing Australia and account for over 11 per cent of Australia's Gross Domestic Product and over 65 per cent of Australia's export earnings. The Department's submission includes best practice examples which would reduce the regulatory burden on businesses to enhance the productivity and growth of the resources, energy and tourism sectors, including:

- Streamlining of land-use regulatory frameworks and consideration of the cumulative impacts of regulation on businesses
- Development of clear guidelines for the assessment of development applications
- Publication of detailed information about government policy at all levels
- Better coordination across different levels of government to share expertise.

Yours sincerely

Drew Clarke
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