



Australian Government

Fisheries Research and Development Corporation

26 November 2010

Philip Weickhardt
Commissioner

Cliff Samson
Associate
Commissioner

Productivity Commission
LB2 Collins Street East
Melbourne VIC 8003

**Productivity Commission, Rural Research & Development Corporations (RDCs)
Inquiry, Draft Report**

Dear Commissioners,

The FRDC welcomes the Productivity Commission inquiry into the RDCs as an opportunity to demonstrate the benefits of the RDC model, and identify improvement opportunities. The FRDC supports the Council of Rural RDCs submission in those areas that relate to FRDC.

Fishing by nature relies on a public resource that necessitates research, development and extension (RD&E) that meets the needs of governments, community and industry. The draft report has identified that the nature of FRDC's RD&E investment is consistent with both its funding model and consultation strategy. Since its creation on the 2 July 1991, FRDC has evolved its business (<http://www.frdc.com.au/aboutus/corporate-documents.htm>) to meet the needs of the beneficiaries of its RD&E investment. While maintaining a strong focus on its core business of fishing and aquaculture RD&E within the PIERD Act 1989. This model is still strongly supported by all of FRDC's stakeholders as demonstrated by their submissions.

The draft Productivity Commission report well represented FRDC's activities, and identified areas that could be changed to improve delivery and relevance to stakeholders. The FRDC supports the Productivity Commission's recommendations as they relate to FRDC. Government and industry will determine if and how these recommendations will be implemented into FRDC. If you require any further data or information please contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Patrick Hone
Executive Director

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