

## **INQUIRY INTO THE PROVISIONS OF THE VALUATION OF LAND ACT 1916**

**Organisation:** Northern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils (NSROC)  
**Name:** Ms Carolynne James  
**Position:** Executive Director  
**Date Received:** 30/07/2010

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30 July 2010



Ms Marie Andrews MP  
Chair  
Joint Standing Committee on the Office of the Valuer General  
NSW Parliament  
Macquarie Street, NSW 2000

Dear Chair

**Re: Inquiry into Provisions of the Valuation of Land Act 1916**

I refer to the inquiry into the above Act which seeks consideration of efficiency and effectiveness of the Act and its application to stakeholders.

The Northern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils (NSROC) comprises seven Sydney councils (Hunter's Hill, North Sydney, Willoughby, Ku-ring-gai, Ryde, Hornsby and Lane Cove) which have voluntarily come together to address regional issues, work co-operatively for the benefit of the region, and advocate on agreed regional positions and priorities.

NSROC sees that compliance of provisions of the Act such as the monitoring of contract valuers and valuation objections management have a direct impact on councils as stakeholders.

Councils are a core client of valuation services in NSW. As you are aware as a result of the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) review of rating valuation services, the price of valuation information to Councils has increased substantially since 2009. Our member councils view that improved quality of valuations is a core expectation of this new pricing regime. Quality of valuations is, in part, determined by quality of contract valuers and the scrutiny of contract services. As such, the compliance of provisions of the Act relating to the monitoring of contract valuers is an important issue for councils.

Objections management processes of the Office of the Valuer-General have a financial impact on councils in terms of rate collection delays or rate refunds that may be consequential to an objection. It is pleasing to see the Office of the Valuer-General has improved and set targets for objection management of 90 days. However it is suggested that the Committee consider further improvements to these processes and including any amendments to relevant provisions in the Act.

Should you have any queries please contact me on (02) 9911 3595 or email [cjames@lanecove.nsw.gov.au](mailto:cjames@lanecove.nsw.gov.au)

Yours sincerely

Carolynne James  
Executive Director, NSROC

