

STATE DEVELOPMENT
COMMITTEE

2 FEB 2004

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Hunter Councils

29 January 2004

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The Director
Standing Committee on State Development
Legislative Council
Parliament House
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Sir/Madam,


Re: Inquiry into Port Infrastructure in NSW

I refer to the Committee's Call for Submissions with regard to the development of a Strategy for Port Infrastructure in this State. Hunter Councils is the representative organisation of the thirteen councils in the Hunter Valley. At its recent Board meeting it was resolved that the organisation submit to the Inquiry its support for the development of a growth strategy for the Newcastle Port.

It is essential for the commitment required for the economic development of the region that the Newcastle Port serves as a stimulus to trade through the provision of efficient access to global markets. The region is well placed to develop opportunities to position the state as a leader in export of commodities, agricultural produce and manufactures with its concomitant employment opportunities.

The Councils support the development of a growth strategy for the port and associated infrastructure which will lead to the investment required by industry to meet the challenge of an increasingly global market.

Yours faithfully



Dr Barbara Penson
Chief Executive Officer