INQUIRY INTO ASPECTS OF AGRICULTURE IN NSW

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SUBMISSION

Some of the inquiries key areas of concern are: economics and finance, commerce, infrastructure and planning, natural resources, public administration, local government, primary industry, agriculture, environmental issues, and issues unique to, or predominant in, rural areas.

Local Environmental Plans (LEPs) impact on all the above which are the majority of the key areas for the inquiry.

Not surprisingly LEPs can also have a severe impact on particular rural businesses should they alter the current circumstance of the business. It is therefore crucial that any changes to LEPs be made with the highest level of communication between the parties involved, such as the particular landowner, state and local government.

Such communication should include written advice to landholders, with the opportunity of a site visit and consultation, with a right of appeal for any decisions made. Suitable procedures should be agreed with the State farming representative body and local government representative body.

Examples of the Local Environmental Plan zoning that can have significant impact are; Environmental Protection 7(a), and Environmentally Sensitive Land, minimum subdivision size.

Review and changes of Local Environmental Plans can be substantially influenced by

State Government and due to the potential impacts that can result it is imperative the State government recognize this with the appropriate procedures as recommended above.

David Pockley



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