



Hunter-Central Rivers Catchment Management Authority

Mr Ian Cohen MLC
Chair
Inquiry into Murrumbidgee College of Agriculture
Parliament House
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Legislative Council
GENERAL PURPOSE
STANDING COMMITTEES

11 JUN 2004

RECEIVED

Dear Mr Cohen

Inquiry into Murrumbidgee College of Agriculture General Purpose Standing Committee No 5

I refer to Item 1(d) of the Terms of Reference referring to transfer of Tocal College to the Department of Education and Training.

The Hunter-Central Rivers Catchment Management Authority (CMA), and its predecessor the Hunter Catchment Management Trust have worked in partnership with Tocal Agricultural College on numerous natural resource management projects over more than 20 years.

The college has been, and remains, a national leader in providing expert training and experience in sustainable and practical land management processes which are consistent with the NSW Government's natural resource management reforms. A most valuable resource available to Tocal students – including numbers of mature age short course students – is the operating farm which enables first hand participation in implementing environmentally and economically sustainable agricultural practices.

In addition to its own teaching staff, the college has also brought together and housed on its campus substantial additional expertise – the office of the Hunter-Central Rivers CMA and the Regional Director of Agriculture and his staff. These resources would not normally be associated with a Department of Education and Training establishment, but are presently able to value add to learning experiences at Tocal.

In the view of the CMA the widely recognised success of the Tocal Agricultural College in efficiently and effectively delivering sustainable land management programs is largely due to its strong connections with the Ministry for Primary Industries.

The CMA sees no advantage, and indeed a number of substantial disadvantages, if management of the college were transferred to the Department of Education and Training, and therefore strongly recommend that administration remains with the Ministry for Primary Industries.

Yours faithfully

Glenn Evans
Executive Officer

RECEIVED

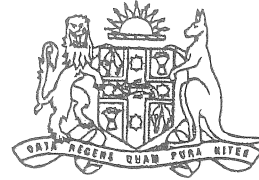
15 JUN 2004

23/1.1

9 June 2004

HUNTER-CENTRAL RIVERS CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

Private Bag 2010
Paterson NSW 2421
Telephone: (02) 4930 1030
Facsimile: (02) 4930 1013



No. of pages (including this page): 2 Date: 9/6/04

This facsimile is to be regarded as an original and no further copy will be forwarded

The original document will be forwarded by mail

To: <u>Mr Ian Cohen MLC</u>	Fax No: <u>02 92303416</u>
From: <u>Helen - for Glenn Evans EO</u>	
<u>Original following in mail today</u>	

The information contained in this Facsimile is intended for the named recipient only. It may contain privileged and confidential information and if you are not the intended recipient, you must not copy, distribute or take any action in reliance on it. If you have received this facsimile in error, please notify us immediately by telephone on (02) 4930 1030 and return the original by mail. We will reimburse any costs.

RECEIVED
15 JUN 2004