

Our Ref: D10/3303  
Tourism WA File: TID/0064-5

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Mr Evan Moorhead MP  
Chair  
Economic Development Committee  
Parliament House  
George Street  
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Attn: Ms Lyndel Bates, Research Director

Dear Mr Moorhead

**INQUIRY INTO DEVELOPING QUEENSLAND'S RURAL AND REGIONAL COMMUNITIES THROUGH GREY NOMAD TOURISM**

Thank you for your letter of 15 April 2010, inviting Tourism Western Australia (Tourism WA) to make a submission to the committee's inquiry. Grey nomad tourism plays an important role in supporting rural and regional communities throughout Western Australia. As part of broader investigations into the caravan park industry over the past few years, considerable research has been undertaken into this matter. The following provides an overview of this research to assist in your inquiry process.

In 2007, Tourism WA and Tourism Research Australia prepared a research report, '*Understanding the Caravan Industry in WA*'. This report investigates the key factors that affect the demand and supply of caravan park accommodation within WA and provides extensive insights into the type of tourists who use caravan parks, their decision making processes and the key operational issues that caravan park operators need to focus on to attract this market.

A copy of this report and associated factsheets, which includes specific reference to grey nomads, can be found at the following web address

[http://www.tourism.wa.gov.au/Research and Statistics/Specialised Research/Pages/Caravan Parks Research.aspx](http://www.tourism.wa.gov.au/Research%20and%20Statistics/Specialised%20Research/Pages/Caravan%20Parks%20Research.aspx)

The report provides a comprehensive overview of the state of the caravan park industry in Western Australia and may be of assistance to your inquiry.

As you may be aware, the Western Australian Legislative Assembly through its Economics and Industry Standing Committee has recently undertaken a major inquiry into the *Provision, Use and Regulation of Caravan Parks (and Camping Grounds) in Western Australia*. A copy of the committee's findings, which were delivered to the Legislative Assembly on 15 October 2009, can be found at the following address

<http://www.parliament.wa.gov.au/web/newwebparl.nsf/iframewebpages/Committees+-+Reports>



The report provides an analysis of the key issues influencing the supply and demand for caravan parks, planning and development requirements and the legislative regime for the caravan park industry in WA. A number of the matters highlighted in the issues paper provided with your letter including infrastructure provisions and the impact of these on the regulation of the caravan and camping ground industry in regional areas are considered in this report. This information may be of assistance to your inquiry, noting that the Western Australian Government is currently considering the recommendations of the committee and will deliver its response on this matter in due course.

If you have any queries on this advice please contact either Mr Steve Crawford, Director Strategic Policy by telephone on 08 9262 1826 or Mr Campbell Fletcher, Senior Policy Analyst on 08 9262 1776.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stephanie Buckland', written in a cursive style.

STEPHANIE BUCKLAND  
A/Chief Executive Officer

4 May 2010