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5 December 2011

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INDUSTRY, EDUCATION, TRAINING AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

The Hon. Kerry Shine MP Chair Industry, Education, Training and Industrial Relations Committee Parliament House George Street BRISBANE QLD 4000

By Email: letirc@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Sir

RE: Inquiry into the Vocational Education and Training (Commonwealth Powers) and Other Acts Amendment Bill 2011

The Western Downs Regional Council (WDRC) has reviewed the Land Title Act 1994 Section 67(3) (a) and the Property Law Act 1974 Section 121 and 8, pertaining to the "Other Acts Amendment Bill 2011".

Whilst we do not object to the Bill's purpose to give certainty to the legal framework for the Surat Basin Rail (SBR) project by exempting the agreement from certain laws under the above mentioned Acts, we believe it is critical that the Government be mindful of:

- 1. the impact of the SBR on landholders affected and their ability to operate their agricultural and other businesses;
- 2. any work impacting the roads in Western Downs region during construction; and
- 3. Any impacts that the project may have on the towns and communities within the region.

Yours faithfully

Phil Berting

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER