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Our Ref: Your Ref:

1 March 2017

Senate Finance and Public Administration Committees
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Sir / Madam

RE: The operation, effectiveness, and consequences of the Public Governance, Performance and Accountability (Location of Corporate Commonwealth Entities) Order 2016

On behalf of the Quilpie Shire Council please accept the following submission in relation to the above inquiry.

Quilpie Shire Council is a rural / remote local government entity located in south west Queensland, approximately 1,000km from Brisbane. Covering an area of approximately 68,000 square kilometres the primary industry is agriculture, particularly sheep and cattle grazing. Council strongly supports the relocation of corporate Commonwealth entities with agricultural policy or regulatory responsibilities to regional areas.

Further, Council firmly believes there are additional opportunities (other than agricultural) available.

The establishment of 'branch offices' particularly in rural areas would provide a much needed economic stimulus to smaller towns already struggling with declining populations and high unemployment. Areas such as infrastructure, regional development and human services are but just a few areas that could be investigated in this regard.

I thank the Committee for the opportunity to make this submission. Please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned on (07) 4656 0500 should you require any additional information.

Yours faithfully

Dave Burges
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER