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NSW 2487

25<sup>th</sup> July 2002

The Secretary  
House of Representatives Economics Committee  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA 2600

email: [EFPA.Reps@aph.gov.au](mailto:EFPA.Reps@aph.gov.au)

**Re: Local Government Responsibilities and Funding Inquiry.**

Dear Sir,

I write for a concerned group of ratepayers and business leaders, residents of the Tweed Shire Council area in northern NSW who wish to be represented before your Inquiry.

The respondents to this request number some 200 small business people and residents of the Tweed region. It is proposed a committee of four residents, representing the background commitment and operations covering the major sectors of a strong and growing community, appear before your Inquiry. Brief details of those representatives are provided in the attachment marked "A".

Noting the Inquiry's aims (as defined in your Internet advice) we submit the Tweed Region offers the perfect case study for your Inquiry.

This is an area now moving forward in terms of growth and development-and that means jobs- after years of stagnation because of administrative mismanagement.

Consequently, we urge consideration for the Inquiry to hold a hearing within the Tweed Shire. This would provide the opportunity to sight, study and meet first hand some of the circumstances and the affected residents that support a full, detailed and factual 130 page submission now finalised for your Inquiry. Alternatively we are available to meet in Canberra at a time suitable to your committee.

Our submission for your Inquiry is made up of detailed and factual case studies with evidence of gross resource mismanagement resulting from years of poor administration. It outlines State Governments interference caused by incompetent policy directives, creating enormous wastage of public monies.

While a new progressive Council is now attempting to address some of the deficiencies, it faces continued interference and denigration of the powers of elected Councillors from State Government political and bureaucratic levels.

We will E-mail a full copy of our report to your secretary on Tuesday July 30th. Should you have a need for printed and bound copies of this report they can be also forwarded next week.

Finally, we make the following points:

- 1.....It is clearly illustrated in our submission that Local Government in NSW is burdened with enormous 'Cost Shifting' implications due to policy set down by State Government departments.
- 2.....That Local Government has no control over its destiny in this decision process and is overruled and over controlled in every management decision of substance.
- 3.....No democratic process is left in place for elected members to engage and direct Local Government staff for intelligent and cost effective economic outcomes.

All inquires to this application should be directed to: Mr R.D.Brinsmead at the above address. Telephone 02 66-777279.

Yours sincerely

R. D. Brinsmead  
For the committee.

Attachment : see (Appendix "A")

### **Attachment "A"**

The Tweed committee comprises:

Councillor R.BRINSMEAD of Duranbah Road Duranbah. A second generation Tweed resident and employer. A respected Horticulturist and founder of the longest running and most successful eco business and Tourist attraction in the Tweed. A well-published and widely known author of horticulture methods as well as technical and life enriching philosophies. A highly regarded Councillor, known to stand up for genuine concerns of the ratepayers in the electorate. Prominent in his desires to see that the district goes forward in economic terms and real job opportunities.

R. Robertson of the Print Spot Murwillumbah. Proprietor of a successful printing and publishing company and district Newspaper. Widely known and respected for his untiring community efforts through service organisations and long established local industry associations. Rotarian and President of the Tweed River Agriculture Society.

J. Murray of Sequoia Court Banora Point is a local business operator and management consultant to the Australian Travel Industry. He has occupied several senior Australian travel Industry positions and works tirelessly on behalf of the local

community. He holds the position of Vice President to the local Chamber of Commerce and Residents associations.

A.Bedser of “Sedona” Nobbys Creek. Owner of a major employer and engineering company over 30 years. Twenty years Lay management of the Grafton Anglican Diocese Administration. Management consultant to Industry as well as Federal and State Government departments. End.