



7 August 2006

The Secretary  
Standing Committee on Environment and Heritage  
House of Representatives  
PO Box 6021  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Sir/Madam,

### **Inquiry into a Sustainability Charter**

I enclose the Property Council's submission to the inquiry into a sustainability charter.

The submission is in two parts:

1. the Property Council's recommendations for improving the eco-efficiency of the built environment; and,
2. a national action plan for urban Australia that aims to foster more sustainable communities.

The national action plan represents the joint efforts of the Royal Australia Institute of Architects, the Planning Institute of Australia, the Planning Officials Group (of Australian states and territories) and the Property Council of Australia. It was prepared *specifically* to address the issues identified in the Standing Committee's terms of reference.

The inquiry into a sustainability charter was also the trigger for the Property Council's eco-efficiency policy. We expect that, in time, both documents will have a life beyond the inquiry.

We look forward to presenting our views to your committee at your convenience.

Yours sincerely

**Peter Verwer**  
**Chief Executive**  
**Property Council of Australia**  
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Attachments: Property Council Eco-Efficiency Policy  
Sustainable Communities – A National Plan of Action  
Sustainable Communities – Summary Document

**The Voice of Leadership**

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