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Salinity Inquiry  
Submission No. 18.....

Glenelg Hopkins



C M A

Protecting our future ~ Naturally

Tuesday, 14 October 2003

Ms. Catherine Cornish  
Committee Secretary  
House of Representatives  
Standing Committee on Science and Innovation  
Aar1 Suite 116  
PARLIAMENT house  
Canberra, ACT 2600

Dear Ms. Cornish

Re: Inquiry into the Coordination of the Science to Combat  
the Nation's Salinity Problem

The Glenelg Hopkins CMA thanks you for providing information about the Inquiry dealing with the application of the best science in relation to Australia's salinity programs.

We agree that the linkages between those conducting research and those implementing the salinity solutions need to be robust. As you mention, we need to ensure that the best scientific knowledge and expertise is being used to address the nations salinity programs.

We strongly believe that good science is crucial in developing appropriate projects to deal with this issue, however it is imperative that the gaps in the current understanding of how to best address salinity be determined. Innovation is sorely need, as salinity has been much examined over the years and still remains a major environmental threat.

The National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality provided the Glenelg Hopkins CMA with funding for the development of a Research and Investigation (R&D) Directory, the purpose of which was to collate summary information on all Natural Resource Management (NRM) conducted in South West Victoria over the past 15 years. A workshop was held for the purpose of identifying the research directions, along with the identified gaps.

In addition we have developed a Regional Salinity Plan, which underpins our State and Federal Government endorsed Regional Catchment Strategy; and which sets the direction for Salinity Action over the next five (5) years. I have included a copy of these documents for you.

In the fight against salinity, communication is a powerful tool and the sharing of information paramount if we are to make an impact on salinity. With this in mind, I am happy to include a copy of the proceedings of the Research and Investigation Workshop, and a preliminary (not exhaustive) list of the salinity projects that are proposed for 2004-2005.

The Glenelg Hopkins CMA wish the Committee well in their endeavors and awaits the outcomes of the inquiry.

Yours truly,

Colin Dunkley  
CEO