

CAPELEC & Capricornia Electricity are the registered business names of Capricornia Electricity Corporation Limited.
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14 April 1999

Committee Secretary
Standing Committee on Primary Industries and Regional Services
House of Representatives
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Sir or Madam,

REGIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE

In response to your invitation to make a submission to the Standing Committee on infrastructure and the development of Australia's regional areas, I am writing to you as Chair of the Capricorn District "Infrastructure/Regulation Liaison Group" formed as part of the Action Capricorn initiative.

Action Capricorn

Action Capricorn is a non political, community based economic development initiative which grew out of a future opportunities workshop hosted by key business people in the Capricorn District (City of Rockhampton and Shires of Livingstone, Fitzroy and Mt. Morgan). The aim of Action Capricorn is to build on local energy, ideas, resources and opportunities to improve the district, create new jobs and improve the quality life.

Under the umbrella of Action Capricorn a number of Projects have been initiated focused on sharing our knowledge and harnessing the local energy to enhance the economic opportunities of the District. An Infrastructure/Regulation Liaison Group has been formed under one of these project initiatives.

Infrastructure/Regulation Liaison Group

The Group is focused on promoting and co-ordinating specific development opportunities in the Capricorn District. The Group brings together key decision makers in government/industry/service organisations essentially involved in the provision of infrastructure resources with a view to establishing a "one-stop shop" for attracting and

interfacing with major projects/developments in the District. (A draft Terms of Reference and list of participants is attached.)

Infrastructure Status

The Group has only been meeting since August 1998 and one of its first initiatives was to consider the status of key infrastructure in the District. To this end an Infrastructure Providers' Workshop was held in February this year with the aim of achieving:

- Shared understanding of infrastructure provider services and roles,
- Understanding of key infrastructure development imperatives and barriers for the District,
- Identification of possible synergies/interdependencies in infrastructure development, and
- Agreed framework for an Infrastructure Audit - "Terms of Reference"

A copy of the outcomes from the workshop is attached.

The next phase of the Infrastructure Status work is to undertake a more detailed Infrastructure Audit of the District and to this end a draft Project Scope document has been prepared and a copy is attached.

At this stage the Group is not able to collectively address the issues raised in your Terms of Reference. As a consequence individual participants will reply in accordance with their own particular issues. However I thought that it was worthwhile advising you of the activities of the Group and the fact that within a few months detailed infrastructure information will be available which identifies the particular barriers to development for the Capricorn District.

If you require more information please contact our Manager Regulation and Strategic Development, Terry Effeney, on 07 4931 2213.

Yours faithfully

C Jones
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
and
CHAIR, INFRASTRUCTURE/REGULATION LIAISON GROUP