

Dr Jacqueline Dewar Australian Senate Parliament House Canberra ACT 2600



4th November 2005

Attached is copy of transcript with a number of corrections, also attached is answer to 'take on notice questions'

Yours faithfully,

George Truman

Catchment Officer - Salinity

Namoi Catchment Management Authority

Inquiry into the extent and economic impact of salinity Additional Points (take on notice questions)

 $1.\ \mathrm{NHT}$ and NAP funding for salinity management - whether there is any ongoing funding and what the likelihood is of continued funding?

This is currently under negotiation and the Namoi CMA is certainly seeking continued funding. The Investment strategy is for a period of 3years, however the Catchment Action Plan is written over a 10 year period.

2. Local Government's contribution to the funding of the CMA's projects - do the shires contribute \$ and approx how much?

Yes there have been a number of gully control structures installed to reduce erosion and salt mobilisation and funding has been provided by the shires. More recently changes are being made to LEP's and DA's to include issues that are being addressed in the Namoi CAP.

3. The provision of recurrent funding (if any) by local government for relevant personnel - for example, funding a salinity project officer. What is the likelihood of this?

Local Government is very supportive of work carried out by the CMA and provides resources and time however it is unlikely that they would fund such a specific position. They may fund a general extension officer.