



Reference: A1795778

Liz Makin
Strategic Planning Manager
Yass Valley Council
PO Box 6
YASS NSW 2582

Dear Liz,

**RE: Planning Proposals – Sutton Road and Faithful Street, Gundaroo (PP-2013-01) &
"Kyeema" Gundaroo Road, Gundaroo (PP-2012-03)**

I refer to your correspondence dated 13 November 2013 requesting comment from the Murrumbidgee Catchment Management Authority (CMA) in accordance with section 52 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (EP&A Act).

The Murrumbidgee CMA would like to ensure the following matters are addressed in terms of native vegetation management within the Murrumbidgee Catchment.

Catchment Action Plan

Any clearing should be consistent with the Murrumbidgee CMA's Catchment Action Plan and should avoid clearing of those vegetation communities that have been over-cleared. Information about our Catchment Action Plan can be found on our website on www.murrumbidgee.cma.nsw.gov.au.

Biodiversity

Clearing should be avoided and/or minimised wherever possible and consideration be given to alternative cleared sites / locations. Consideration should be given to whether the vegetation is highly modified and if it is not highly modified, whether the vegetation is in an over-cleared landscape (Based on the Mitchell landscapes) or is of a vegetation type that is over-cleared. Consideration should be given to the impact on connectivity particularly in fragmented landscapes such as the South West Slopes.

To offset any impacts of clearing consideration should be given to rehabilitating the landscape through revegetation activities that will also ensure minimal impact on soil erosion and water quality.

Threatened Populations, Endangered Communities and Threatened Species Habitat

Consideration should be given to any threatened communities and threatened species habitat. Endangered Ecological communities such as the Yellow Box – White Box- Blakelys Red Gum Woodland should be avoided. Similarly threatened species habitat should be assessed and avoid any unnecessary clearing. Threatened Populations, Endangered Communities and Threatened Species Habitat should be assessed using the eight part test under Section 5A of the EP&A Act. The Office of Heritage & Environment (OEH) can provide a list of threatened species that require full consideration.

Soil and Water Erosion

The impact of clearing on land degradation requires an assessment of the land and soil capability determined by the occurrence of specific land and soil hazards such as the potential for wind and water erosion, dryland salinity, shallow soils, rockiness and soil structure.

Thank you for providing the Murrumbidgee CMA with an opportunity to comment on this proposal. Should you require any further clarification you can contact Matt de Jongh at the Queanbeyan office on (02) 6229 7711.

Yours sincerely,



John Francis
General Manager
Murrumbidgee Catchment Management Authority

18 December 2013