OFFICIAL

Our Ref: IM23/1293 Your Ref: D22/3608

Professor Hugh Durrant-Whyte Commissioner **Natural Resources Commission** GPO Box 5341 SYDNEY NSW 2001

Email: bryce.wilde@nrc.nsw.gov.au

Dear Professor Durrant-Whyte

I would like to thank the Natural Resources Commission (NRC) for its audit of the Floodplain Management Plan for the Upper Namoi Valley Floodplain 2019 and Floodplain Management Plan for the Lower Namoi Valley Floodplain 2020.

I note the audit found that while many of the provisions of the plans are being implemented, on balance the provisions of the plans have not been given full effect in accordance with the Water Management Act 2000.

The Department of Planning and Environment - Water (DPE Water) is progressing work on several areas relevant to the audit recommendations and suggested actions. The outcomes of the NRC's audit, along with the section 43 review, and other supporting activities by DPE Water, will inform the next steps in relation to this management plan.

DPE Water will provide the NRC with a more detailed response addressing the specific audit findings.

Should you require additional information or wish to discuss this matter further, I have arranged for Mr Daniel Connor, Director health Floodplains Project Delivery in DPE Water to be available. Dan can be reached via email at daniel.connor@dpie.nsw.gov.au or by phone on 0459 849 558.

Yours sincerely

The Hon. Kevin Anderson MP Minister for Lands and Water

Minister for Hospitality and Racing

16.2.2023