



**The Hon Katrina Hodgkinson MP**

Minister for Primary Industries  
Minister for Small Business

IM13/35354

11 OCT 2013

Dr John Keniry AM  
Commissioner  
Natural Resources Commission  
GPO Box 4206  
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Dr Keniry

Thank you for your letter of 21 August 2013 concerning the Natural Resources Commission (NRC) recommendation to develop a performance standard for landscape management which will set performance expectations for Local Land Services (LLS).

The existing Standard for Quality Natural Resource Management (NRM), developed by the NRC, has provided a solid framework to drive improvements in program delivery, leadership, innovation and professionalism across Catchment Management Authorities.

However, I believe there is room for improvement and there is merit in scoping the development of a new statewide standard that is tailored to the new LLS framework incorporating plant and animal pest control, biosecurity, emergency management and agricultural advisory services.

While other NSW NRM agencies are not required to comply with the existing standard, I am seeking the NRC's advice on any potential benefits across NRM delivery if this were required under a new statewide standard. In doing so I would like the NRC to consider broader issues such as community engagement, customer service, capacity building and governance.

In order to progress this matter, I ask that the NRC scopes the matter out with key players, including the Department of Primary Industries.

I have asked that Ms Kerryn Richardson, DPI Director Catchments, be available to discuss this matter further with you. Ms Richardson may be contacted on 02 6391 3383 or [kerryn.richardson@dpi.nsw.gov.au](mailto:kerryn.richardson@dpi.nsw.gov.au).

Yours sincerely

**Katrina Hodgkinson MP**  
Minister for Primary Industries