



NSW IRRIGATORS' COUNCIL

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John Feil
Executive Director
National Competition Council
GPO Box 250B
MELBOURNE VIC 3001

Dear Mr Feil

Water Reform Assessment Framework 2004

The NSW Irrigators' Council welcomes the opportunity to contribute to the National Competition Council's *Water Reform Assessment Framework 2004*. Council's submission is attached.

I would reiterate the criticism that Council recently made to the Federal Treasurer: that it appears that the NCC and the Federal Government have no comprehension of the amount of industry and community resources currently being applied to participate in the water reform processes currently underway around the nation.

Unlike politicians and bureaucrats, this Council's activities are not funded by taxpayers, instead, they are fully funded from resources received from its membership base. It is, therefore, disappointing to note that the NCC's Assessment is being carried out during a period of immense national debate on water reform that may well significantly change the landscape and address many of the issues raised in this Assessment process. In short, you have embarked on a very wasteful exercise that would have been better delayed for some months to enable the COAG debate to conclude.

Should you require any elaboration of issues raised in this submission, I would be pleased to assist.

Best regards

DOUG MIELL
CHIEF EXECUTIVE