

Mr Steve Loane General Manager Warrumbungle Shire Council PO Box 191 Coonabarabran NSW 2357 13/09144

Attention: Tony Meppem

Dear Mr Loane

Thank you for Council's submission of the Warrumbungle Shire Council Land Use Strategy dated March 2013 (Strategy).

I am pleased to advise that I have endorsed the Strategy to guide land use planning in Warrumbungle into the future and form the basis of the draft Warrumbungle Local Environmental Plan 2013. I congratulate Council on completing this important strategic land use planning work.

The Strategy addresses supply and demand for all land uses particularly in relation to large lot living. The Strategy identifies a settlement hierarchy and provides the basis for development potential for residential, business, industry and open space in key settlements of Coonabarabran, Dunedoo and Coolah. The smaller rural settlements are being maintained as villages to retain rural identity and services.

The Strategy balances social, environmental and economic considerations by allowing future development opportunities while protecting natural resources and primary production activities. The importance of Siding Spring Observatory has also been acknowledged. Environmental heritage is also being enhanced with heritage conservation areas identified in Coonabarabran, Coolah, Dunedoo, Baradine and Binnaway to retain local character.

The outcomes of the Strategy are being realised in the draft Warrumbungle LEP 2013 that is currently being assessed so it can be finalised in the near future.

Should you have any further enquiries about this matter, I have arranged for Wayne Garnsey, Planning Operations and Regional Delivery, Dubbo Planning Team to assist you. Mr Garnsey can be contacted on telephone number 02 68412180.

Yours sincerely

Neil McGaffin / 4.7.13 A/Deputy Director General

Planning Operations and Regional Delivery