



Planning

Office of the Director General

Mr Tom O'Connor
General Manager
Uralla Shire Council
PO Box 106
Uralla NSW 2358

10/04936

Dear Mr O'Connor

New England Strategic Alliance of Councils Development Strategy

I refer to the letter from Worley Parsons on behalf of the former New England Strategic Alliance of Councils received by the Department on 16 February 2010, seeking the endorsement of the New England Strategic Alliance of Councils (NESAC) Development Strategy.

Following consideration of this Strategy, I am pleased to endorse the NESAC Development Strategy dated February 2010 for approval. It should be noted that the preparation of the upcoming comprehensive LEPs should be in accordance with the outcomes of this Strategy and with relevant State Environmental Planning Policies, section 117 Directions, planning circulars and practice notes.

It is noted that the Strategy has identified a number of investigations areas that will be brought forward in appropriate stages, and will require further detailed studies before they can be progressed for possible rezoning. It is also recommended that Walcha Council re-examine its approach to maintaining large lot residential and rural small holding development in 'rings' around the Walcha urban area in its future strategic planning work. A more strategically defined approach to this matter is likely to provide benefits including a reduction in potential land use conflicts and establishing well serviced and sustainable areas.

Should you have any further enquiries about this matter, I have arranged for Mr Craig Diss, Team Leader - Tamworth to assist you. Mr Diss may be contacted at the Department's Tamworth Office on telephone number (02) 6701 9685.

Yours sincerely

Sam Haddad
Director General

16/3/2010