

AO-G.738
IR:RG:ab

2nd May 2011

Mr. Scott Pickering
Chairman
Northern Mallee Declared Species Group
C/o Derella Downs
RMB 9162
Esperance WA 6450

Dear Mr Pickering

The PGA understands that the Shire of Esperance has agreed to conduct a referendum to levy a specific area rate (SAR) to aid with the construction of the extension to the state barrier fence. The PGA also appreciates that there are past precedents in the shire with respect to carrying out referendums prior to the imposition of previous specified area rates.

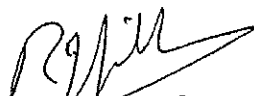
The PGA is pleased to note that other stakeholders such as the South Coast Natural Resource Management are actively involved and that concerted industry consultation by your group over the last 12 months with local farmers has explained the benefits of this fence to both grain and livestock enterprises in the Esperance agricultural area.

The PGA supports industry co-contributions as being important to demonstrate ownership of solutions, self-reliance and to secure funding from State and Federal Governments.

Consequently, the PGA fully supports the group in its efforts to secure funding for construction. We feel sure it will add to the overall efficacy of the state barrier fencing strategy. It is important to note that a condition of the SAR is that it will only be applied to rural properties in the shire, so that those who own the land and are realising the benefits will be paying for the fence.

Furthermore, we recommend that ratepayers in the Shire of Esperance support this referendum and vote in favour of a specific area rate to finance the construction of the extension to the state barrier fence.

Yours faithfully,


Rob Gillam
President

MyDocuments/President.R.Gillam/ScottPickeringNorthMalleeGroup/SAR.Referendum/02.05.2011