



**Conservation Council
of South Australia Inc**
ABN 22 020 026 644

23 April 2008

Hon Gail Gago MLC
Minister for Environment and Conservation
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Re: Proposed NRM Boundary Changes

Dear Minister

As a Peak Body under the Natural Resources Management Act 2004
CCSA is pleased to make comment on these proposed boundary changes.

CCSA understands that the Working Group, established through the NRM Council, has recommended to the Minister that the majority of NRM boundaries should remain as they are. CCSA would request that further consideration be given to those boundaries that do not align with whole of council boundaries, at the most appropriate time.

CCSA supports the proposed boundary changes as described. Given that these boundary changes will see NRM regions more closely aligned with local government administrative boundaries this should lead to more cohesive natural resource management, particularly in the case of effected National and Conservation parks.

A key point in these changes will see some redistribution of rateable properties. It is important to ensure discussion concerning equalisation in changes to rateable areas progresses to ensure equity occurs in these boundary changes.

CCSA does, however, have a concern with the process of consultation regarding these boundary changes. With the consultation letter as much information as possible regarding the lead up to the boundary changes should have been provided. This includes any potential issues that may arise with each boundary change and how any potential negative affect may be mitigated. Given that, after discussion with DWLBC staff, it would seem that much work has been done in the lead-up to these proposed boundary changes which was important to convey when consulting with Peak Bodies.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Julie Pettett'.

Julie Pettett
Chief Executive Officer.