WEDDIN SHIRE COUNCIL

TVL:TS:C2.10.3

6 March 2002

Commissioner Section 2D Inquiry Productivity Commission

Email: section2d@pc.gov.au

Dear Sir/Madam

SUBJECT: INQUIRY INTO SECTION 2D OF THE TRADE PRACTICES ACT 1974

I refer to the above inquiry which was the subject of a presentation by Productivity Commission officers to a CENTROC Meeting at Wellington on 28 February 2002.

This Council wishes to support the retention of Section 2D because it affords certainty. Whilst many people may believe that the deletion of Section 2D would have little if any effect on local government, it is not unknown for an unexpected situation to arise which has to be referred to the courts for a decision. Section 2D not only makes a clear statement of its applicability so that local government can act with certainty, but it also would act as a deterrent to any party who may otherwise wish to challenge a matter.

The most likely effect of deleting Section 2D would be to increase uncertainty and encourage time-consuming and expensive court hearings, outcomes which are themselves counter-productive.

Weddin Shire Council strongly supports the retention of Section 2D in its present form.

Yours faithfully

T V LOBB GENERAL MANAGER