PATTERSON LAKES
INDEPENDENT REVIEW

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8 March 2013

Hon Peter Walsh MP
Minister for Water
Parliament House
Melbourne

Dear Minister,

Patterson Lakes Independent Review – Final Report

I hereby submit to you the final report of the Patterson Lakes Independent Review.

In accordance with its Terms of Reference, the Review has considered and analysed management of the Patterson Lakes Tidal Waterways and Quiet Lakes (Patterson Lakes Waterways). The Review has formulated 15 conclusions and 26 recommendations on actions to create a sustainable management framework for the Patterson Lakes Waterways.

The Review has fundamentally concluded that the management of the Patterson Lakes Waterways is outdated, inefficient, and urgently needs a restructuring of roles, responsibilities, and funding arrangements.

The Review would like to emphasize that the Recommendations will also affect other ministerial portfolios, requiring consultation with respective Ministers. For example, the Review recommends that the preferred option going forward with respect to governance is one of sharing responsibilities between Melbourne Water, Parks Victoria and Kingston City Council adopting a collaborative approach to management.

The Review advises that such consultation, referral and collaboration should be undertaken in the interests of all stakeholders involved in managing the Patterson Lakes Waterways. A good starting point of working together will be in the development of the management plan. This will clarify roles and responsibilities and provide a way forward.

The Review also emphasises that unless all stakeholders work collaboratively and 'own' the Plan, the way forward for the management of the Patterson Lakes Waterways will continue to create community dissension and be fraught with difficulties.

The Review would also like to draw your attention to the current Water Law Review and the opportunity to forward the Review's report onto the Water Law Advisory Panel for its consideration. The issues that have been addressed at Patterson Lakes raises matters considered by the Review to be of some relevance and may assist the Panel with its own deliberations.

The final report of the Review will be available on its website until the end of March 2013 at:

www.pattersonlakesreview.com.au

Following this it will be available on the websites of both Melbourne Water and the Residents Association of Patterson Lakes.

Yours sincerely

Chris Harty
Chair,
Patterson Lakes Independent Review
Encl

Copied to: David Ryan, General Manager Waterways, Melbourne Water
Members of the Patterson Lakes Independent Review Community Reference Group