To Whom it may concern,

RE: SUBMISSION ON THE DRAFT STATE PLANNING POLICIES

Whilst Council generally has no issues with the majority of the proposed SPPs, there are some draft SPPs which Council wishes to comment on:

Policy 6 – Housing Supply and Diversity

Council is supportive of Policy 3 in identifying that regional centres and town growth needs to be supported. This is vital for the long term sustainability of regional towns and regional centres.

Policy 8 – Primary Industry

Council is strongly supportive of this SPP. Primary Industry is a major employer within the District Council of Lower Eyre Peninsula and is a major ongoing economic contributor to the State’s economy and high valued primary production land must be protected from inappropriate and short term land uses.

Policy 10 – Key Resources

Council is concerned by the wording of the SPP in that it implies that defined mineral resources (both developed and undeveloped) must be protected from encroachment by incompatible land uses. As a region, the Lower Eyre Peninsula has a significant agriculture industry which is a major economic contributor to the State. Council is concerned that valuable primary production land that is a major contributor both financially and by way of food production to the State (and Nation) is at risk from mining operations that in most cases only make a short term and finite contribution to the economy. This SPP is contrary to SPP 8. Agriculture is not inferior to mining which is what this SPP implies.

Policy 11 – Strategic Transport Infrastructure

This SPP is supported by Council, particularly with regard to the need to protect existing infrastructure assets including the rail network on EP (used for grain movement) and significant State owned highways which would be significantly affected by a large increase in truck movements should the rail network become disused. There is also a social impact with regard to an increased number of trucks on the highway (i.e. safety to motorists and trucks).

Policy 12 – Energy

The EP has significant wind energy potential (particularly along the western coastline) however the accessibility to this resource is limited due to the lack of connection to the main grid.

Policy 14 – Water Security and Quality

No issues. Noting that ongoing Water Security is an extremely important issue to Eyre Peninsula.

Should you have any queries regarding the above please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Regards,