



4 August 2025

Hon Justice Mordecai Bromberg
President
Australian Law Reform Commission
Australian Government
PO Box 209 Flinders Lane VIC 8009

By Email: nativetitle@alrc.gov.au

Re: Australian Law Reform Commission: Review of the Future Acts Regime

LETTER OF SUPPORT for the National Farmers Federation's submission

Dear President and members of the Commission

The Western Australian Water Users Coalition (WAWUC) writes to strongly support the National Farmers Federation's (NFF) submission (July 2025) to the ALRC's Review of the Future Acts Regime and endorses the NFF's concerns and recommendations.

The WAWUC appreciates and welcomes the opportunity to participate in and contribute to the ALRC's Review of the Future Act Regime.

The WAWUC was established in 1998 to represent the interests of water license-holders and water users in Western Australia, with a particular focus on protecting private property rights in water. The WAWUC strongly believes that it is the Economic Use of Water that generates the wealth that ultimately funds social programs and the protection of the environment. Consequently, the WAWUC is deeply concerned that diversion of water from existing economic activities to non-economic activities will ultimately be counterproductive to the pursuit of environmental and social goals.

The WAWUC's membership comprising individual businesses and nine WA industry peak bodies, represents a wide cross-section of primary production sectors, including aquaculture, agriculture – freehold and pastoral leases, amenity and production horticulture, and plantation forestry. Through these memberships, the WAWUC currently represents over 1500 water-dependent businesses geographically distributed across Western Australia from the Kimberley through to east of Esperance.

The guiding principles of the WAWUC are: Private Property Rights; Rule of Law; Self-interest; Self-reliance; Subsidiarity; Free Markets; Competition; Lean; Small Government; and Reduced Regulation.

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Though not a formal member of the NFF, the WAWUC provided a Western Australian perspective to the NFF Submission at the invitation of the WA Farmers, who is a financial member of both the NFF and the WAWUC.

Of WAWUC's nine industry peak body members, it is primarily members of the Pastoralists and Graziers Association of Western Australia (PGA of WA) and WA Farmers, who operate pastoral businesses on native title lands, that are most impacted by the current Native Title Act 1993 (Cth) processes, including the Future Acts Regime. It is on behalf of these members that the WAWUC most eagerly seeks significant improvements in the efficiency, transparency, accountability and equity of Native Title Act processes.

In preparation of the ALRC's Final Report to the Australian Government, the WAWUC strongly encourages the ALRC to consider NFF's concerns and recommendations.

Yours Sincerely,



Doug Hall

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