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Andrew McConville
Chief Executive
Murray-Darling Basin Authority
GPO Box 1801
Canberra ACT 2601

19 October 2022

Dear Andrew,

Review of Water Resource Plan Assessment Process – NSW Great Artesian Basin Shallow

We have completed our Process Review of the Murray Darling Basin Authority's (MDBA's) assessment (including making appropriate enquiries around MDBA's approach and documentation of the assessment) of the NSW Great Artesian Basin Shallow Water Resource Plan (WRP). This letter is provided in accordance with the scope of works as described in the Statement of Work in our Contract (Reference ID: MD004625).

Scope

KPMG has reviewed Part 11 of the MDBA's assessment of the NSW Great Artesian Basin Shallow WRP and the supporting documentation and provide our findings with respect to the process followed.

Findings

Based on our observations and enquires with respect to the sections reviewed:

- The approach applied by MDBA in undertaking and documenting the assessment, including documentation of justifications and references to support the assessment, appears to be consistent with internal guidance materials and recordkeeping requirement;
- MDBA has included justification for their assessment, supported by their analysis and documentation to a standard understandable to an informed third party; and
- Any issues logged by the MDBA have been resolved with the relevant state or territory.

The scope of our engagement is an advisory engagement and did not include assessing the appropriateness of the MDBA's assessment outcomes or the underlying justifications.

Should you have any questions or comments, please contact me on (02) 6248 1220.

Yours sincerely

Tony Hof
Partner

**Inherent Limitations**

This letter has been prepared as outlined with MDBA in the Statement of Work of the contract MD004625, last revised 28 June 2022. The services provided in connection with this engagement comprise an advisory engagement, which is not subject to assurance or other standards issued by the Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards Board (AUASB), and consequently no opinions or conclusions intended to convey assurance have been expressed. References to 'review' in this letter have not been used in the context of a review engagement in accordance with review standards issued by the AUASB.

No warranty of completeness, accuracy or reliability is given in relation to the statements and representations made by, and the information and documentation provided by, MDBA management and personnel consulted as part of the process.

KPMG is under no obligation in any circumstance to update this letter, in either oral or written form, for events occurring after the letter has been issued in final form.

Notice to Third Parties

This letter has been prepared at the request of MDBA in accordance with the terms of KPMG's engagement contract MD004625, last revised 28 June 2022. Other than our responsibility to MDBA, neither KPMG nor any member or employee of KPMG undertakes responsibility arising in any way from reliance placed by a third party on this letter. Any reliance placed is that party's sole responsibility.