

1. The Australian Association of Bush Regenerators (AABR) wishes to alert the Review Panel to the importance of experienced professional assessment of remnant or degraded land when usage change of such lands is being considered.

On a visual level such land may appear to be of little or no biodiversity value, however this is not an adequate assessment - if the soil profile is still intact and quality native vegetation exists nearby then the site may have the potential to regenerate to some level of the diversity of the original ecosystem and provide valuable habitat and biolinks for native fauna.

2. AABR wishes to alert the panel to the importance of skilled and experienced practitioners when carrying out ecological regeneration/restoration works. AABR has an accreditation system for practitioners of bush regeneration and is in the process of establishing one for ecological reconstruction.

AABR is also a partner with other NGOs and SERA (Society for Ecological Restoration Australia) in developing Australian standards for ecological restoration/reconstruction.

AABR urges the Review Panel to take these issues into consideration. We would be happy to provide more detailed information to benefit the review process.

Yours faithfully

Jane Gye

Secretary

Australian Association of Bush Regenerators