13 September 2010

The Hon Tony Kelly MLC
Minister for Planning
Level 34, Governor Macquarie Tower
1 Farrer Place
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Minister

Land and Housing Supply Taskforce

I am writing to welcome the establishment of the Land and Housing Supply Taskforce. The Property Council of Australia looks forward to working with the Taskforce to identify and remove the hurdles to the efficient and timely delivery of land for employment and residential growth across NSW.

The Property Council requests formal clarification of the Taskforce’s Terms of Reference, its short and long term priorities, its powers to recommend and implement reform and its capacity to engage with and seek advice from key stakeholders.

Clearly understanding the scope and powers of the Taskforce will assist the property industry to more effectively engage with this group and contribute to their understanding of the barriers impacting the efficient delivery of housing and employment land.

We note that the establishment of the Taskforce has been principally in the context of streamlining the delivery of housing, largely to the neglect of discussion about the barriers to the delivery of employment land.

Please find enclosed a copy of Employment Lands – Delivering Opportunity and Prosperity, a policy paper recently released by the Property Council to draw attention to the importance of employment land development and associated infrastructure provision.

Employment lands suffer from a lack of political commitment and understanding, are plagued by severe infrastructure shortfalls and delays in land release and suffer under the application of excessive development levies.

The Property Council urges your office and the Taskforce to consider the information and recommendations outlined in this paper. We would be very pleased to meet with your office and Taskforce members to provide further information if needed.

Please don’t hesitate to contact Kristin Pryce, NSW Senior Policy Advisor, on 9033 1951 or at kpryce@propertyoz.com.au if you have any questions regarding this letter.

Yours sincerely

Glenn Byres
NSW Executive Director