

4<sup>th</sup> February 2003

Professor Peter Newman  
Director  
Sustainability Policy Unit  
197 St George's Terrace  
PERTH WA 6000

Dear Peter

Thank you for your invitation to comment.

My reactions to the document are more or less the same as when I saw you last – it being the same document.

However, I'd be grateful if you would consider doing an "Ockham's Razor" talk on the national importance of the exercise. This way we can perhaps ask other states to consider the pioneering aspect of what you've done. In the meantime, if you need to quote anything from me you can say:

"It has been my pleasure to look through early drafts of Focus on the Future. This exercise in imagining the way we may live in 10, 20 or 30 years time is absolutely essential. I am a former Chairman of the Commission for the Future (succeeding Phillip Adams and preceding ex Senator John Button).

The sort of examination of the future we were calling for then, and which was largely ignored because people couldn't understand its purpose or value, is now supremely obvious as an essential exercise.

I congratulate Western Australia on doing something that the rest of the country should urgently follow".

My very best regards Peter and I hope to hear from you after my return from America at the end of February.

Robyn Williams  
(Science Unit)