



# Greg Hunt MP

FEDERAL MEMBER FOR FLINDERS



SHADOW MINISTER FOR CLIMATE ACTION, ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE

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Friday, 10 December 2010

Mr Geoff Lake  
President  
Australian Local Government Association  
8 Geils Court  
DEAKIN ACT 2600

<b>ALGA MAIL</b>	
ITEM No:	808
DATE RECEIVED:	14 Dec 10
FILE No:	

Dear Mr Lake,

Thank you for your letter regarding resolutions passed by the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) National General Assembly of Local Government, requesting advice in relation to the Coalition position on the outlined resolutions.

For your information, I have enclosed a copy of our Coalition's response to the resolutions.

I note that two of the resolutions relate to water which falls outside my portfolio, and have therefore referred them to Senator Simon Birmingham, Parliamentary Secretary for the Murray-Darling Basin for a response. I have requested that Senator Birmingham respond to you directly on these resolutions.

If I can be of further assistance to you on this or any other matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

  
**GREG HUNT MP**

encl  
GH:mh



# National General Assembly for Local Government 2010 Resolutions

## Coalition Position

### MOTION:

#### **Strategic Motion No: 31**

**Council:** City of Fremantle for South West Group

#### **Motion**

That this National General Assembly seek the support of the Council of Australian Governments to have a nationally consistent approach to predicting sea level rise to 2100 to facilitate local and regional strategies for adaptation and mitigation of impacts on coastal communities and coastal development.

Carried

### **RESPONSE: Strategic Motion No 31:**

The Coalition supports adaptation measures to mitigate the impact of sea level rises on coastal communities and coastal development. In its Direct Action Plan, the Coalition committed \$126 million to establish a National Climate Change Adaptation Centre to help vulnerable sectors and regions understand the impacts of climate change and develop practical responses. This builds on the \$14.2 million National Climate Change Adaptation Program and complements a \$44 million CSIRO Adaptation Flagship.

### MOTION:

#### **Motion No: 32.1**

**Council:** Maroondah City Council

#### **Motion**

That this National General Assembly calls on both the State and Federal Governments to provide financial assistance for the roll out of Energy Efficient Street lighting. Further, the Commonwealth Government commission a parliamentary or independent review of the approach of the Australian Energy Regulator in setting the policy, regulatory and pricing frameworks for sustainable street lighting in Australia.

Carried

### **RESPONSE: Motion No: 32.1**

Our Direct Action Plan offers incentives for the lowest cost emissions. A coordinated action to replace lights with more energy efficient globes could potentially qualify for support from the Emissions Reduction Fund.

The Coalition is in favour of sustainable energy-efficient measures. A Coalition Government would work with a range of industry groups including the Clean Energy Council, the Energy Efficiency

Council, the Green Buildings Council and the Property Council to develop complementary energy efficiency measures.

**MOTION:**

**Strategic Motion No: 33**

**Council:** Cabonne

**Motion**

That the Australian Local Government Association call on the Australian Government to ensure sustainable water supplies and security by:

1. Consultation and engagement of local and state government in all national, state and regional water planning;
2. Water Conservation planning measures to include strategies that meet the challenges associated with drought and Australia's future food production needs.
3. Providing appropriate funding to safeguard communities water needs at a local level within a national plan.

Carried

**RESPONSE: Strategic Motion No: 33**

(Refer to Senator Simon Birmingham, Shadow Parliamentary Secretary for the Murray-Darling Basin)

**Motion No: 33.2**

**Council:** Mildura Rural City Council

**Motion**

That the Australian Local Government Association lobby for the vertical alignment of Federal, State and Local Government policy related to water and land use planning.

Carried

**RESPONSE: Motion No: 33.2**

(Refer to Senator Simon Birmingham, Shadow Parliamentary Secretary for the Murray-Darling Basin)

**MOTION:**

**Motion No: Reserved: 48**

**Council:** City of Burnside

**Motion**

That it be ALGA Policy, along with the appropriate composition labelling of all packaging material, for a suitable symbol to be permanently shown on all products that are not suitable for disposal in the normal domestic waste stream.

Carried

**RESPONSE: Motion No: Reserved: 48**

The Coalition is strongly willing to consider this initiative, subject to consultation with ALGA and retail organisations.

**MOTION:**

**Motion No: Reserved: 68**

**Council:** Hindmarsh Shire Council

**Motion**

That the Australian Local Government Association lobby the Commonwealth Government to immediately reinstate funding for Landcare initiatives, including funding specifically to employ Landcare Coordinators.

Carried

**RESPONSE: Motion No: Reserved: 68**

The Coalition has expressed deep concerns that the current federal Government has diverted funding from Landcare and other NRM projects in favour of federal and state government agencies and supports a refocusing of funding back to local groups and for Landcare.

In its election policy, the Coalition highlighted 3 key objectives in relation to Landcare:

1. Reduce the paperwork surrounding Landcare
2. Provide more direct funding to Landcare projects, to be spent at local and regional levels
3. Work towards 3 year funding, as required by groups

The Coalition's Landcare plans are connected to the Green Army which supports young people as paid volunteers to weed and transplant trees. Green Army coordinators would be paid an annual income of \$50,000. This is similar to this Motion's stated inclusion of specific funding for Landcare coordinators.