

**PUBLIC**

2120 Albany Highway Gosnells WA 6110  
Mail to: PO Box 662 Gosnells WA 6990



T 08 9391 3222  
F 08 9398 2922  
E council@gosnells.wa.gov.au  
W www.gosnells.wa.gov.au  
ABN 18 374 412 891

15 October 2009

Standing Committee on Public Administration  
Parliament House  
Perth  
Western Australia

Your Reference: wpp07  
Our Reference: dw2177393  
Enquiries: Rod Wallington  
93913353

Attention: Cassandra Stephenson

Dear Sir/Madam

### **Inquiry into Electricity Transmission and Distribution by Western Power and Horizon Power**

With reference to the above inquiry I provide the following comments:

Whilst the majority of electricity distribution lines within the City of Gosnells are located within road reserves, there remain a few that traverse rural or bushland areas. There are also significant transmission lines traversing various locations throughout the City.

From a fire and emergency management perspective the City has very few concerns regarding the management of these lines and has developed an excellent working relationship with Western Power representatives.

Western Power currently contribute funds (and have done for many years) to the City of "Gosnells Fire Management Plan for the Darling Scarp and environs", a plan which attempts to mitigate the risk of bushfire by limiting public access, providing strategic fire access tracks and managing fuel loads within the area.

Western Power, through its Network Response Group, also provide consistent representation on the Local Emergency Management Committee, unlike many other private and public agencies.

Records indicate that in recent history there have been very few, if any, bushfires caused by powerlines and when bushfires have impacted upon or potentially impacted upon transmission or distribution lines the response from Western Power has been prompt and efficient, no doubt assisted by the strong working relationships already established.

Should you have any further queries regarding this matter please do not hesitate to contact me on the above listed number.

Yours faithfully

**Rod Wallington**  
**Risk & Emergency Management Coordinator**  
**Chief Bush Fire Control Officer**