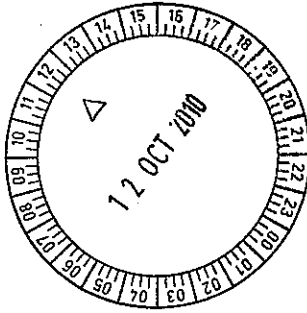


PUBLIC



Western Australia

Telephone:

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Hon Brian Ellis MLC
Chairman
Standing Committee on Environment & Public Affairs
Legislative Council Committee Office
18-32 Parliament Place
Perth WA 6000

Petition No 93- Pinjar South - Inclusion as a Priority Area in the Industrial Land Strategy 2009

Dear Mr. Ellis

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a written submission regarding the issues raised in the petition pertaining to the above matter.

I wish to advise that I have not taken my complaint to the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administrative Investigations (Ombudsman).

I attach my written submission.

Please could you confirm acknowledgment of my submission.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Glynis Monks'.

Mrs. Glynis Monks JP
October 7th 2010

Pinjar South is situated within the Priority One Public Resource Drinking Water of the Gnangara Mound

The priority 1 (P1) public drinking water source area of the Gnangara Mound is a valuable and relatively inexpensive source of high quality drinking water for Perth.

Many residents regard setting a precedent of placing industry on a current P1 water area and potentially jeopardizing this asset as poor planning and economically irresponsible

Under the Gnangara Sustainability Strategy risk of groundwater pollution and environmental effects to the water table will be permitted provided the risk is not deemed significant. I along with other petitioners question whether any level risk of contamination is acceptable.

Placing industry within the priority one public drinking water resource area (P1) also sets a poor Legal precedent.

The South Pinjar site has its own wetlands and during the late autumn, winter and spring, water lies on the top ground. Any development would have to include a process of de-watering which will produce the known effects of oxidation and then acidification of the acid sulphate soils resulting in an acid plume in the ground water. The residents have raised strong opposition to any potential risk to these sites.

The South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council have also raised many concerns on behalf of the Aboriginal Community.

To date there have not been any indigenous investigations or studies pertaining to the Pinjar South Site.

The Gnangara Sustainability Strategy Indigenous Consultation Project in December 2009 delivered a unanimous response that any new land use should retain or replace as much of the original environment as before.

There is sufficient Industrial land within the City of Wanneroo to provide for future requirements, as such the priority one status should be retained and only uses compatible with this be allowed on the South Pinjar Site.

The 1992 North-West Corridor Structure Plan (NWCSP) identified the Neerabup Industrial Area (NIA) as the key strategic industrial area to service the entire corridor and designated over 1000 hectares of land for this purpose. Additionally, the NWCSP recognised that the size and location of the NIA was likely to generate significant levels of employment that would contribute substantially toward achieving a 60% self-sufficiency target (72% self containment) for the region

The existing Neerabup Industrial area covers a total of 1020 ha, Two Bush Forever sites are located within the Neerabup Industrial area affecting approximately 90 hectares of zoned land (or approximately 9%), effectively sterilising this land from development and an allocation of 80 ha is a priority water extraction area.

If these areas were released for development there would be sufficient land for industrial uses in the longer term. The offset required for these sites could then be used for the revegetation of sections of the Pinjar South Site.

It would seem more logical to remove the constraints from the Neerabup Industrial Area as the necessary infrastructure is either already in place or has been approved under the Structure Plan.

As such local residents are extremely concerned about the State Government plans for the mound.

In 1984 a parliamentary committee conducted an enquiry that led to the current protections on the mound and we need to ensure these protections are not reduced.

We believe that a comprehensive enquiry should be carried out by the Standing Committee to ensure the current proposals are not putting the mound and Perth's water supply at risk of contamination

Industrial development could contaminate water supply, degrade the surrounding environment and have an irreversible impact on local areas of Indigenous significance.

The Gnangara Mound is currently the single largest source of Perth's water and will continue to play a key role into the future. Allowing industrial development will create an unacceptable level of risk to this critical water source.