

29 June 2010  
Linda Omar  
Committee Clerk  
Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs Committee  
Legislative Council  
Parliament House  
PERTH WA 6000

**PUBLIC**



Dear Committee

I am responding to the committees invitation to contribute to the 'Inquiry into Shack Sites in Western Australia.

Being a part owner of a shack at Grey I feel that the government needs to rethink the old policy of destroying the shack communities, because that is what they are. They are small communities of families and friends that assemble together in one place with one general purpose to enjoy the lifestyle provided by these areas. The uncomplicated stress free time you spend up there, refuelling your generator, pumping water, fixing up your shack, playing with your kids, making damper, lighting the wood stove. Things like that. Simple pleasures that are not available in our lifestyles anymore.

Our extended family get there as often as we can but our busy lifestyles do stop us travelling there as much as we would like. We love the community feeling of the place and join in on all the community events such as Dune rehabilitation, fixing the dump, general cleanups, the fishing fiesta, the grey foot rally all of these events are well patroned by the community and the atmosphere has great family spirit.

Once these areas are gone so is the history behind the Australian shackie, the days when you could load up your car with some building materials go off and build yourself a small place on the beach to bring your family and friends are gone and will never be again. Now you need a blue chip portfolio and a seven figure salary to have a tiny piece of ocean front land, With the thousands of kilometers of coast line in this country Why can't some small pieces be left alone for the normal Australian family to enjoy.

Yours sincerely

Garry White