



Department for Planning and Infrastructure
Government of Western Australia

sub 57.

Hon K Hames MLA
Acting Chairman
Education and Health Standing Committee
Legislative Assembly
Parliament House
PERTH WA 6000



Dear Mr Hames

Inquiry into the Cause and Extent of Lead Pollution in the Esperance Area

Thank you for your letter of 12 April 2007 requesting attendance by the Department for Planning and Infrastructure (DPI) at the Committee's Inquiry into the Cause and Extent of Lead Pollution in the Esperance Area.

While the DPI would, of course, be pleased to comply with your request, I thought it might be useful to advise the Committee beforehand of the DPI's position in this matter.

The DPI has had no role in the approval process for either the transportation of lead to Esperance or the handling and export of lead at Esperance Port.

Port Authorities are statutory authorities established under the *Port Authorities Act 1999* and report direct to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure, without the need for reference to the DPI.

The DPI assists the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure in the development and implementation of broad policies and strategies to ensure that WA ports operate efficiently and competitively and unless specifically requested by the Minister or the ports, does not involve itself in port operational matters.

In view of this information, it would be appreciated if you could confirm if my attendance at the Committee hearing is still required.

Yours sincerely

Greg Martin
Director General

19/4/2007

Albert Facey House, 469 Wellington Street, Perth, Western Australia 6000
Tel: (08) 9264 7777 Fax: (08) 9264 7566 www.dpi.wa.gov.au
ABN 40 996 710 314