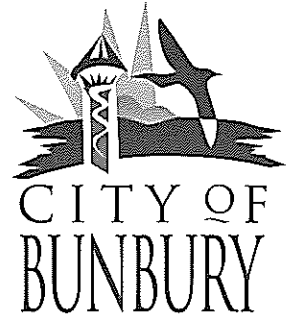
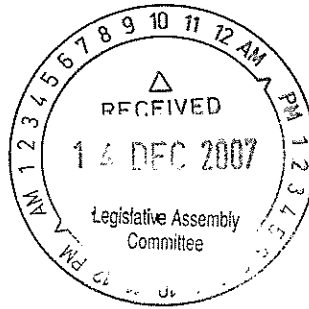


Our Ref: A01981/# 4.10915
Your Ref:
Enquiries: ☎ (08) 9792 7081
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WLS SUB 27



11th December 2007



Dr Loraine Abernethie
Economics and Industry Standing Committee
Parliament House
Perth, WA 6000

Dear Dr Abernethie

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY - WATER LICENSING AND SERVICES SUBMISSION

Further to your request, please accept the following submission from the City of Bunbury in relation to the Parliamentary Inquiry into Water Licensing and Services:

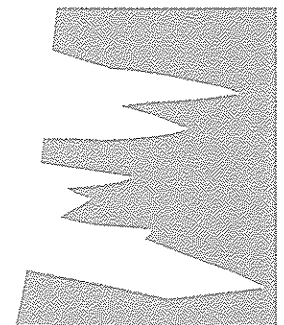
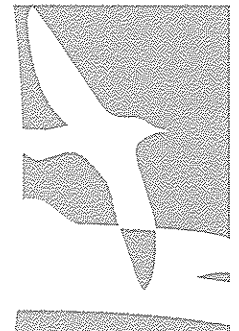
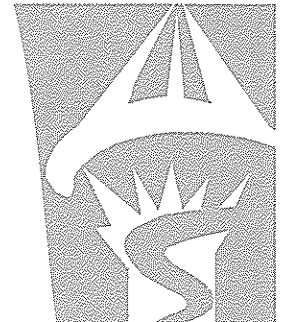
Please note that this submission is focussed upon the fifth term of reference provided by the Economics and Industry Standing Committee:

5. *Whether water licenses and/or licence administration fees should be required for taking water under arrangements that are currently exempt, in the context of residential bores drawing from an unconfined aquifer.*

The City of Bunbury understands that non-licensed usage of water in the South West is significant, especially in areas where scheme water is presently unavailable. It is also understood that such usage is not accurately accounted for within the State Government's current water allocation process due to a lack of quantitative data in this regard (Department of Water, pers. comm., December 2007).

Given the relative scarcity of water resources in the South West, current demand and uncertainty regarding future availability due to climate change etc., it could be argued that improved management of the resource is required in order to provide greater security for all users.

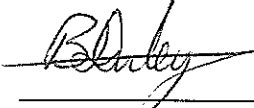
It is considered that the licensing of all water users, including those currently exempt, will provide for improved decision-making through the associated collection of data and is an important step in improving the management of water in Western Australia.



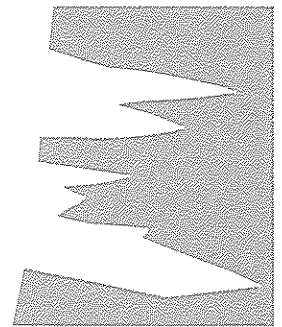
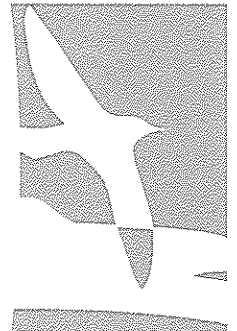
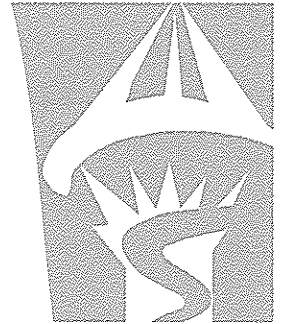
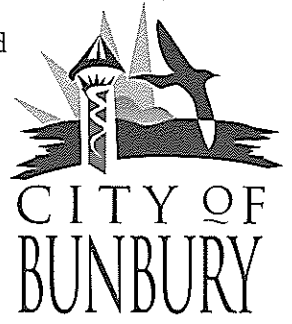
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If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact me as detailed above.

Yours faithfully



Ben Deeley
Environmental Officer



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