

**PUBLIC**

Omar, Linda

**Subject:** FW: Wedge Island shacks  
**From:**  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 30, 2010 9:11 PM  
**To:** Veletta, Suzanne  
**Subject:** Wedge Island shacks



Dear parliamentary committee

with regard to the shacks at Wedge Island It is my view that all squatters should be removed from the site and their shacks demolished.

Wedge Island is a place I have camped and surfed on many occasions and indeed I have stayed as a guest of owners of 2 of the shacks.

It would be unfair in the extreme if the shacks were to obtain a freehold title of prime coastal land or even a right to squat permanently at that location.

Wege Island is a place for all Western Australians not just a select few who have acquired shacks. The way of life that they have cited as justification for staying is far from an idyll of familys quietly enjoying the natural environment. Widespread vegetation loss from 4WDs, litter, and hooning up and down the beach, is sadly the reality of the area now and this would worsen with improved access.

Far from hereditary rights of ownership, many of the shacks have been sold to property speculators who have hoped that their investments of a few thousand dollars can be turned into a real estate goldmine, should the Government ever be swayed from its long, and I might add well publicised, decision to remove the shacks with the opening of the new road.

It would be my desire that the government through proper environmental survey and community input would create a 'Rottnest Style' holiday village with affordable chalets to be leased on a ballot system at peak periods. There could be provision of a camp site too with shade trees and wind breaks. It could all be powered by wind and solar power and a desalination and sewage treatment plant installed, all resulting in a resort with the highest standards of sustainability. It would have the added advantage of being cheaper to run, and consequently stay at, than Rottnest, as it would have access to mainline services and transport. This along with rehabilitation of vegetation, restricted vehicle access, provision of boat moorings and a jetty would be an inspirational amenity to current and future generations of West Australians wishing to connect with their natural environment

Yours faithfully