



Hon Albert Jacob MLA
Minister for Environment; Heritage

Your Ref: Petition no. 95
Our Ref: 50-10245



The Hon Simon O'Brien MLC
Chairman
Legislative Council Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs
Parliament House
PERTH WA 6000

Dear Mr O'Brien

Thank you for your letter dated 17 September 2015 regarding Petition no. 95 – Roe Highway Extension (Roe 8).

Main Roads WA referred their proposal to construct Roe 8 to the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) on 20 April 2009. The EPA determined to assess the proposal and then proceeded to do so. For the purposes of assessing the proposal, the EPA has a range of discretionary powers set out in section 40 of the EP Act and procedures which may be followed, to the extent the EPA considers relevant, set out in the applicable environmental impact assessment administrative procedures.

In assessing this proposal, the EPA carried out a thorough and detailed examination of the potential environmental impacts, releasing its report and recommendations in September 2013 (Report 1489). The EPA considered impacts of the proposal to the environment, including to Bibra and North Lake wetlands, remnant bushland, amenity and fauna and concluded that the proposal could be implemented in an environmentally acceptable manner. The proponent's environment review document (PER) was released for public review for 12 weeks.

A number of appeals were lodged against the EPA's report and recommendations.

After considering all the information presented to me with respect to the appeals, I was of the view that the EPA has adequately assessed Roe 8. I therefore determined not to remit the proposal back to the EPA for further assessment.

However, to ensure that the terrestrial environment will be adequately monitored and protected, I required that a number of conditions recommended by the EPA be strengthened. Ministerial Statement 1008 was published on 2 July 2015.

These conditions relate to amenity, terrestrial environmental quality, wetlands, flora and vegetation, and fauna. I am confident that with these strengthened conditions, that the environmental values of the area will be adequately protected.

I do not consider there is any basis to reverse my decision to provide environmental approval for Roe 8 highway extension.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Albert Jacob". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Albert" and the last name "Jacob" clearly distinguishable.

Albert Jacob MLA
MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT; HERITAGE

01 OCT 2015