



**MINISTER FOR TOURISM; RACING AND GAMING; SMALL BUSINESS;
DEFENCE ISSUES; CITIZENSHIP AND MULTICULTURAL INTERESTS**

Our Ref: 70-02655
Your Ref: Petition No.14

Hon Matthew Swinbourn MLC
Chair
Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs
Legislative Council Committee Office
Parliament House
4 Harvest Terrace
WEST PERTH WA 6005

Dear Mr Swinbourn

Thank you for your correspondence dated 17 August 2017 regarding Petition No. 14 – Proposed landfill in Esperance.

I understand the Shire of Esperance is under pressure to re-locate the current rubbish facility and that there are limited options near the town for this provision. In this regard, it is noted that the Shire has undertaken a number of environmental and geological studies to inform the site selection process.

I am mindful that the proposed site is not far off the access road to Cape Le Grande and Esperance Stonehenge. As described within the petition, these are important tourist attractions, with the access road heavily used by visitors to the area, especially during the summer school holidays.

The role of my portfolio agency, Tourism Western Australia, and the local regional tourism organisation, Australia's Golden Outback, includes promoting Western Australia's highly prized nature-based tourism experiences to the world. Maintaining the highest standards of management of our tourism assets and attractions is an important aspect of delivering on an extraordinary experience for all visitors.

In this regard, it is important that if there is any effect on the amenity of the area or any potential environmental impacts, that the appropriate level of due diligence and assessment is undertaken before a decision is made.

Thank you once again for contacting me regarding this petition.

Yours sincerely

**HON PAUL PAPALIA CSC MLA
MINISTER FOR TOURISM**

12 SEP 2017

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