

To Whom it May Concern

This is now the fourth occasion on which I have made comment on this proposal – to both versions of the Western Power Proposal and to the ERA during the regulatory assessment process. In each case it has been a different set of documents and a different set of discussions, with no clear indication on whether the proposal is substantively different from the previous version of the proposal.

During these previous consultation processes I noted the lack of consideration of the potential to export energy from the Midwest back into the grid, and in particular the enormous potential that exists for solar power generation on the eastern fringe of the agricultural area on both the Karara and the planned Extension Hill transmission lines. I am aware of numerous potential investors and would be surprised if there is not a large scale solar generator (200 MW) on each of the two lines within 5 years. We have the best conditions for solar power generation close to a major grid anywhere in Australia.

Remarkably this does not form part of the business case. Once this additional potential benefit is included the net benefit increases exponentially.

The Southern half of the Mid West will be a new iron ore province. Unlike the Pilbara most of the ore will be magnetite rather than haematite. Magnetite could be described as green iron ore – the lifecycle carbon cost of producing steel is much lower than for haematite. Magnetite is however far more capital, energy and water intensive at the mine. The ore is separated and concentrated before shipping (contributing to the lower lifecycle cost). These multibillion dollar projects require energy, and this augmentation project is part of that matrix.

This project continues to enjoy the support of the Shire of Perenjori and the wider Mid West community which is now thinking not if, but when.

Regards

*Stan Scott*  
Chief Executive Officer  
**Shire of Perenjori**