Level 11 77 Eagle Street GPO Box 1390 Brisbane Qld 4001 www.pipelinetrust.com.au

Phone: 61 7 3229 8230
Fax: 61 7 3221 9643

Australian

Pipeline Trust

Australian Pipeline Ltd ACN 091 344 704

ARSN 091 678 778

12<sup>th</sup> September 2011

Tyson Self Manager Projects Access Economic Regulation Authority PO Box 8469, PERTH BC WA 6849

Email: publicsubmissions@erawa.com.au

Dear Mr Self,

## RE: Submission to ERA Issues Paper for Midwest Energy Project NFIT

APA Group (APA) welcomes the opportunity to make a submission on the above. We understand that the Midwest Energy Project is a very important component in the future expansion of the South West Interconnected System (SWIS) and in the development of the Midwest mining province. We also understand that this project (and various versions of the project before it), has some history under the regulatory process and may be considered somewhat contentious.

APA, having recently purchased the Emu Downs Wind Farm and the Badgingarra Wind Farm development project, along with its considerable gas pipeline interests in the Midwest region, has a keen interest in seeing the future expansion of the SWIS and the resources sector in the Midwest region.

Having closely followed Western Power's processes over the years with regard to this project, APA is happy with the manner in which Western Power has conducted the current application under the Access Code. Our general observation and comment is that Western Power has consistently included interested stakeholders in the process; and appears to have conducted robust analysis in determining the relevant costs and benefits of the proposed project.

APA encourages a speedy approval of Western Power's NFIT application.

Best Regards,

**Shane Cremin** 

Development Manager