



ESPERANCE - Western Australia's Secret South
Beyond Imagination, Within Reach

28th July 2005

Via e-mail

watersubmissions@era.wa.gov.au

Lyndon Rowe
Chairman,
Economic Regulation Authority
197 St Georges Terrace
Perth WA 6000

Dear Mr Rowe

Submission to the Economic Regulation Authority

The Esperance Regional Tourism Association wishes to place on record its support for the Goldfields Water Supply Project.

Poor water quality and water restrictions have been an issue in the Esperance region for many years and as tourism operators we see substantial benefits to our industry from obtaining a new high quality potable water supply.

Visitors to Esperance regularly complain about the quality of water currently available from our bore field water supply. The poor quality of water also adds additional costs to our commercial operations.

We believe that the Goldfields Water Supply Project will provide abundant fresh water supplies that will improve amenity in our community and will provide the impetus for tourism development. Water is in such short supply that Esperance cannot currently develop the type of quality tourism facilities such as resorts and golf courses that other destinations take for granted.

Apart from water quality and supply issues, we see the investment of more than \$400million in a desalination plant and pipeline as a significant boost to the local economy.

Esperance and the region will benefit from the additional workforce required during the construction period. Hospitality and accommodation service providers will be among the beneficiaries.

Yours sincerely

MALCOLM (FUD) MACKENZIE
President of the
Esperance Region Tourism Association