

Dr Ken Michael, AM
639
Independent Gas Regulator of WA
Office of Gas Access & Regulation
6th Floor
197 St Georges Terrace
PERTH WA 6000

Dear Dr Michael

Please find enclosed a copy of correspondence which was sent to Epic Energy on 17th August 2001.

A representative from Epic Energy requested this copy be made available to you.

Yours sincerely

(MRS) GLEN NORRIS
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

29th August 2001

Ms S Ortenstone
Chief Executive Officer
Epic Energy
P O Box 6470
EAST PERTH WA 6892

Fax: 94923888

Dear Ms Ortenstone

This Shire and indeed the community are very hopeful that one day it will have access to piped gas. This would ideally be used within a domestic context and also for industry development. Power (gas) infrastructure is a key component for industry and sustainable jobs underpin our community.

Recently we were visited by representatives from the Department of Resources Development who were embarking on the process to secure a pipe line access route along South Western Highway. This gave a heightened expectation that one day in the near future gas infrastructure would be provided. Even as we speak, Sons of Gwalia mine in Greenbushes are planning their future (power) upgrading requirements.

The tariff regime to be implemented has a bearing on stakeholders ability to develop the gas infrastructure referred to above. Presumably, there are merits in the approach the Government has proposed however we would not wish this to be a short-term gain at the expense future (rural) beneficiaries of this much needed infrastructure.

We hope this sentiment will be considered in the context of the Statewide social benefits of having industry in rural areas.

Yours sincerely

ANDREW MACNISH
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

17th August 2001