

SHIRE OF CHAPMAN VALLEY SUBMISSION

204.16

Office of Gas Access Regulation
6th Floor, 197 St Georges Terrace
PERTH WA 6000

Dear Sir/Madam

DAMPIER BUNBURY NATURAL GAS PIPELINE – PROPOSED ACCESS ARRANGEMENTS

It has been brought to Council's attention the WA Regulator (Office of Gas Access Regulation – OffGAR) is calling for public submissions on the draft proposal for access arrangements under the natural access code for the Dampier to Bunbury Natural Gas Pipeline (DBNGP).

Council wishes to express concern over the possible adverse ramifications from the proposed reduction in tariffs upon any future industrial developments in the regional areas.

Council hosts the newly established Oakajee Industrial Site, immediately north of Geraldton, and are concerned the OffGAR may not have undertaken adequate investigation into how the proposed tariff amendment may effect future proponents from establishing their industry at this site, bearing in mind the close proximity of the DBNGP to the site has always been considered advantageous as an energy source.

In addition to the Oakajee Industrial Site, Council has also been approached in regards to the establishment of wind farms along the coast for the production of renewable energy to the state. Again, the advantage of the sites chosen by the wind farm proponents is its proximity to the DBNGP, as natural gas is the best option to compliment the wind energy source when wind is not sufficient enough power the wind turbines.

Council respectfully enquire with you as to whether the proposed amendments in tariffs under the draft review will have any adverse effect upon the establishment of the renewable wind energy proposals currents being pursued.

Council also enquire into the possibility of the public submission date being extended to ensure all relevant individuals and organizations are given adequate opportunity to absorb what appears to be an extremely complex situation.

I look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely

MAURICE BATTILANA
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

10th August 2001