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Economic Regulation Authority Level 6 Governor Stirling Tower 197 St Georges Terrace PERTH WA 6000

ATTENTION: MR RUSSELL DUMAS

BY E-MAIL

Dear Mr. Dumas.

Submission in response to the Invitation for Public Submissions Dampier to Bunbury Natural Gas Pipeline Stage 5 Expansion

The Retail Business Unit of Western Power Corporation (RBU) makes the following submissions in response to the Authority's Notice dated 24 February 2006. Note that RBU will become the Electricity Retail Corporation effective 1 April 2006, trading under the name Synergy.

RBU, as the second largest retailer of natural gas in Western Australia welcomes the opportunity to submit the following comments in relation to the proposed DBNGP expansion.

- 1. RBU is generally supportive of the expansion as presently described, provided that:
  - a. The ERA, after appropriate review, is comfortable that the proposed investment offers the best compromise between flexibility for future expansion while minimising the cost of investment in new facilities; and
  - b. All transportation tariffs will be equitably impacted by the expansion and that all standard tariffs will be equivalent.
- 2. RBU has a significant interest in the outcome of these proceedings and anticipates providing further comments subsequent to the issuance of a draft decision by the ERA.

We will be pleased to discuss any of the preceding comments. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely

Grant Draper
Head of Strategic Business
Business Strategy and Regulation
Retail Business Unit – Western Power Corporation