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ONE NATION WESTERN AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED

30th August 2007

Inquiry on Competition in the Water and Wastewater Services Sector
Economic Regulation Authority
Post Office Box 8469
PERTH BUSINESS CENTRE
PERTH WA 6849

It is with regret that we only became aware of the Issues Paper – Call for Submissions at the 21st August 2007. We do not have presently the in-house expertise to respond satisfactory with a detailed submission at such short notice.

ONE NATION WA recognizes that reforms are required. Water, as any other essential service eg. Electricity and Gas, must not, under any circumstances, be privatised. Water is not a manufactured commodity and cannot be owned by anyone but the people living in Australia.

The Australian Constitution recognizes this in chapter 4 – Finance and Trade, paragraph 100:

NOR ABRIDGE RIGHT TO USE WATER

The Commonwealth shall not, by any law or regulations of trade or commerce, abridge the right of a State or of the residents therein to the reasonable use of the waters of rivers for conservation or irrigation.

Water must be freely available to all residents, even if we have to subsidise supply.

Commercial interest will have the potential to price water out of reach of many in our society.

For this very reason we have always been against corporatisation of government (People) assets and infrastructure.

WE STRONGLY OPPOSE ANY PRIVATE SECTOR INVOLVEMENT IN EITHER OWNING, TRADING, SUPPLYING OR DELIVERING OF THIS LIFE SUSTAINING SOURCE.

Thank you
Yours faithfully,

Marye Louise Daniels
State Secretary
ONE NATION WA