



Our ref: WT3038-03  
Enquiries: Tammy Ng 6364 6867

Mr Mick Geaney  
Assistant Director, Licensing  
Economic Regulation Authority  
PO Box 8469  
Perth Business Centre WA 6849

Dear Mr Geaney

***Amendment to Water Corporation Operating Licence No 32***

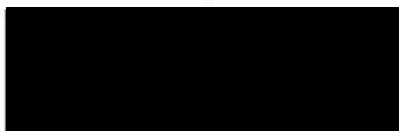
The Department of Water (DoW) thanks the Economic Regulation Authority for the opportunity to provide comments on the proposed amendment to the Water Corporation's operating licence relating to changes to the measurement of minimum flow in the Farmlands and Rural Water Supply Schemes.

The DoW acknowledges that the proposed change resulted from a recommendation provided in the operational audit for the Corporation. However, the DoW has been contacted by a number of regional Shires regarding their concern about the change in this service standard will have on their businesses and communities.

As you maybe aware, the Shires of Kent and Esperance were declared water deficient in the past months and water carting became another means of water supply to these Shires. The availability of water for domestic consumption, livestock and agricultural purposes is essential for the regional farmland and rural communities.

The DoW would like to see a minimum flow adopted by the Corporation that is equitable for the farmland and rural customers and to engage in broader discussion with the affected customers to ensure that they fully understand the impact of the proposed change.

Yours sincerely



Hazel Kural  
A/Executive Director, Policy and Innovation  
3 August 2011