

Dear Sir,

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission on the Proposed 330 kV transmission line construction from Neerabup to Karara Mining Ltd's iron ore mine site.

The Geraldton Iron Ore Alliance has made a number of submissions in support of this project to the Authority and it is not intended to reiterate these in this submission.

We have been engaged with Western Power through their consultation processes, and remain very strongly in favour of the 330Kv transmission line development. We also confirm that we do not see any option of lesser transmission capacity as practical nor beneficial to the development of a sustainable iron ore industry in this region, nor in fact to the broader economic development of the Mid West.

The purpose of this submission is to not only reaffirm our support of the project and to encourage its timely progress, but to also advise the Authority of a recently completed study undertaken on the Economic and Social benefits of the emerging Mid West iron ore industry, by independent consultants, Economic Consulting Services. A copy is attached.

The findings of this report which is a study of the potential of the industry, are very significant indeed and should help in giving the Authority a great deal of confidence in the growth of the region. The report is based upon current planned iron ore projects in the Mid West or adjacent regional areas which are likely to utilise the Oakajee port and connecting rail infrastructure when developed. As you would be aware a number of the early projects are currently or are planning to utilise the Geraldton port to move ahead in the short term.

The importance of having the timely upgrading of our region's major power transmission network to enable our industry and the broader region to progress cannot be overstated.

Yours sincerely,

*Rob Jefferies*  
*Chief Executive Officer*  
*Geraldton Iron Ore Alliance*