

30<sup>th</sup> April 2002

23 Hawter Road  
GLEN FORREST WA 6071

Dear Professor Newman

The current state government is to be congratulated for recognizing the importance of sustainability and for trying to actually do something about it. What the government is trying to do is not an easy task. It will take longer than one term in government. Some would say it will take a life time. We are slow learners.

To make a lasting impression, the ideas of sustainability need to be infused into education and government at all levels. As is being done now, government should provide the leadership where ever possible. If this is done, people might see that a paradigm change is indeed taking place. People may start to change within themselves. Only if people become aware will a paradigm shift take place.

People certainly can't be forced to become aware, but they can be encouraged. If the government started to assess projects in regards to the 'triple bottom line' then more people would start to take notice. The environment almost always suffers. If the government knocked back a few projects, that lend themselves to damage to the environment people would realize that the government was serious. New submissions could be made that provided a better outcome for the environment and thus for people. It would really send a message.

A message needs to be delivered that the patterns of Nature will be protected and thus guaranteeing a sustainable future. Once people see that this is the goal and it is a true value of the government, then they will find ways to work towards the goal of sustainability.

Unfortunately all of this will take time. But now the first steps are being taken and I wish you and the government all the luck and wisdom in the world.

Sincerely,

Edward J Neiman