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Professor Peter Newman  
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Department of the Premier and Cabinet  
15th Floor, 197 St Georges Tce  
PERTH WA 6000

Dear Sir,

## **SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY CONSULTATION DRAFT SUBMISSION**

### **GENERAL COMMENTS**

I would like to congratulate you and your team on producing a comprehensive, magnificent document. I know it can never be perfect, given the area which it has to cover, and the fact it covers almost every aspect of our lives, but it comes close. I suspect that because its coverage is so broad that each area could not be covered in great detail. This is why I suspect that many of the suggestions and requests I made in my submission did not appear as specific recommendations. I hope that people will read the submissions, but there are so many of them and so much to read that without the “imprimatur” of them being in the “Strategy” they will tend to be forgotten. It would be good to see some of my suggestions so endorsed, included in proposed the action list and implemented.

If there was any criticism I have it is that many of the proposed actions are very broad and general. I hope we will see the detail in the Implementation plan. The support given to implementation will be important, as the concept is still complex and many people are still uncertain regarding what it means. I hope the Strategy doesn't just end up sitting on bookshelves gathering dust.

### **SPECIFIC COMMENTS**

- Actions 4.1—4.6:** There is a need to target regional bushland conservation and to have Bush Forever-type schemes around other major towns in WA besides Perth;  
We should try to limit the population growth of Perth, and try to ring-fence Perth to limit the impacts of urbanisation.
- Actions 6.6—6.9** All incentives, subsidies and grants, both in existence and in the future, should be examined on triple-bottom line grounds to ensure they contribute to sustainability and to the improvement of

economic, social and economic criteria;

Levies or quotas on the extraction/use of natural resources such as water, coal, gas, bauxite, iron ore, sand, limestone, housing, agricultural and horticultural land, should be considered to encourage innovation, reduction in consumption, improved efficiency and recycling;

**Actions 6.6—6.9** Research should be undertaken to develop better ways of putting a value on the environment. Potential mechanisms include the following:

- valuing the contribution of that portion of the environment to ecological processes, such as production of high quality water, high quality air and viable agricultural land;
- determining the cost of replacing or replicating that portion of the environment.

Yours faithfully,

Dr. J.E. Wajon, FRACI, CPCChem, Comp IE Aust