

Sue Burrows

OR-IGR-035

7 January 2003

Sustainability Policy Unit
Department of Premier & Cabinet
197 St Georges Tce
PERTH WA 6000

Dear Sir/Madam

DRAFT STATE SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY

Further to the submission by the Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council (EMRC) on our behalf on the Draft State Sustainability Strategy, the following brief comments are made in regard to the list of proposed actions.

As pointed out by the EMRC, member Councils are already involved and active in a range of actions related to sustainability. It should be noted that if it is the intention to legislate many of the proposed actions, which are required to be carried out by the local government adequate funding or additional resources may have to be considered. Government assistance should therefore be made available to fund projects or to provide additional resources. Recently it has been noted that draft policies prepared by the Department of Planning and Infrastructure have the potential to set onerous tasks on local government which ultimately will impact on its resources and its community's.

It is therefore important to not only involve local government in the development of such policies but also listen and take on board the comments raised to establish an effective working partnership between state and local government.

Furthermore it is noted that under sustainable agriculture, social and economic aspects are not mentioned yet they are raised in regard to fisheries and aquaculture. It is proposed that there is a need to include social and economic aspects into actions for agriculture to protect the continuance of agricultural industries and their communities while meeting environmental objectives.

If further clarification is required in regard to the above please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned on 9257 9925.

Yours faithfully

Sue Burrows
EXECUTIVE MANAGER
PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES