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Laurie Curro
Manager
Network Planning and Development
Western Power
GPO Box L921
PERTH WA 6842

ABN: 16 549 616 697
Suite 5 / 18 Stirling Street
PO Box 8078
PERTH BC 6849
Phone: (08) 9328 8411
Fax: (08) 9328 8933

Dear Laurie

On behalf of the Western Australian Sustainable Energy Association Inc (WA SEA), I would like to thank you for the opportunity to comment on Western Power's proposed improvements to the Mid West region's transmission network.

WA SEA was incorporated in July 2002 and is the peak body for sustainable energy in Western Australia. The Association promotes the adoption of sustainable energy technologies and services. WA SEA works on behalf of all members to ensure that the State and Federal Governments adheres to sustainability principles, and is committed to mitigating greenhouse gas emissions and adopting practical measures to adapt to climate change.

WA must have access to a plentiful supply of low cost sustainable energy so that it can meet growing sustainable energy and greenhouse goals at the lowest possible cost. With this growing demand and the fact that the Mid West region's transmission network has no capacity to support new projects, WA SEA fully supports the construction of a new 330 kV line from Pinjar to Geraldton as outlined in Option 1. However, we recognise that Option 6 *330kV line with 500 kV towers* offers the best solution for both now and the future.

In closing, the agricultural region north of Perth holds the potential for a large number of low-cost sustainable energy opportunities. For example, the area has a world class wind resource and available land and is ideally suited to low cost wind farming. The area also has a concentration of agricultural activities that offers the opportunity to develop cost effective biomass projects that utilise existing agricultural wastes or energy crops. Furthermore, the area also links Perth with the fast developing Mid West Region and its numerous mineral resource projects. Iron ore proposals alone look to position the area as WA's second iron ore province, and married to renewable energy projects could ensure iron ore production with a low carbon footprint.

If you have any queries about this submission, please contact Johanna Gastevich on (08) 9328 8411.

Yours sincerely

Dr Ray Wills
Chair, Western Australian Sustainable Energy Association Inc (WA SEA).

Mission:

'On behalf of the people of Western Australia, the Association will vigorously promote the development and adoption of sustainable energy so that by the end of this decade, 30% of the State's fossil fuel use is displaced by sustainable energy practices.'