DESALINATION PLANT NUMBER 2

BINNINGUP COMMUNITY MEETING – 29 MAY 2007

7.30pm, BINNINGUP COUNTRY CLUB

PART 1 PRESENTATION

Marie Dilley:
Good evening everybody.

You are all going to have to be very, very quiet because the PA system is on its maximum volume so that you are all able to hear.

Good evening to you all and welcome. We have here tonight representatives of the Binningup community, also members of the wider community who utilise the resources of Binningup and representatives of the media. Thank you to the Water Corporation for agreeing to come here tonight to explain to us the proposal for a desalination plant between Myalup and Binningup. I would like to introduce you to Chris Elliott, who is the Regional Business Manager for the South West Region and his team. Chris will introduce those in a minute. Also to Greg who is an independent facilitator provided by the Water Corporation for the question and answer session.

The proceedings will be recorded and I have requested that we be provided with a copy prior to our meeting next Monday afternoon.

Our purpose tonight is an important one. It is to empower our community by gathering information so that we can, as a community next Monday afternoon, argue the pros and cons of the proposal, and develop a community view that will either endorse, endorse with modifications, or reject the proposal. With this in mind I ask your co-operation in keeping the question and answer session just that.

Ask questions about your concerns, but save the debate on the answers and your opinions for next week. We all want what is best for Binningup so also remember that tonight will be widely reported in the media tomorrow and any dissent could well work against us. As there are a large number of people present I ask that all questions be directed through the chair, it will actually be through Greg, and though you all have many questions, that you ask them one at a time so that everyone has an opportunity to participate, and so that the meeting can proceed in an orderly fashion.

With those few words, Chris would you like to take over please.

Chris Elliott:
Thank you very much, Marie. And thank you to Marie Dilley, President of the Binningup Community Association, … and all the residents of Binningup and others that have attended tonight, it is an unbelievable response and I guess we do apologise for those that are standing and the ones that are way at the back. There is another meeting tomorrow night at Myalup, let's come along to that one. There is information and look if there is any need at all to have another single session, we will certainly respond to that.

I rang Marie a couple days after the previous announcement about the Desalination 2 Project and I would sincerely like to thank Marie for helping us work together to bring about tonight's opportunity. We wanted to be able to get to this community and the Myalup community very, very quickly. So at short notice we have achieved a hell of a lot.

In my role of contact with the south west community on Yarragadee community and other matters across the south west for the last 5 years, I can honestly say this is the biggest group on a water issue that I can recall in quite a while, it is fantastic.

I would like to introduce myself, I am the Regional Business Manager for Water Corporation, I am based down here in the south west and our office is the Regional Office in Bunbury, I have been in the region for 17 years and know the area very well. I have done work closely with your Association and the Binningup community and only a few short years ago we worked together to achieve a major improvement to the water supply here and there was a very constructive relationship and I am very confident we can move forward in dealing with this issue together very, very constructively.

Look, on a personal note, Binningup is my water playground, I have been boating and fishing and pulling pots and I know the value of the community and the amenity and the sensitive environment here very, very well and understand a lot of the issues that no doubt many of you will have.

I would mention the stakeholders and I would like to acknowledge Peter Monagle as Shire President and a number of Councillors are here tonight as well representing the Shire, but the Shire itself is contained in the Harvey Shire, all the asset creation components of it, the Binningup community, the Myalup community and all the land buffers between the coast and Harvey that could be affected by pipeline infrastructure. You are the primary stakeholders that we want to work extremely carefully and closely with going forward.

There are going to many, many others stakeholders, the regulators and various other groups in the wider community that will have an interest in the project, but it is the Harvey Shire and your two communities and the landowners who are really the focus and this is our first real step in a consultation process that is going to, as the project develops, occur over the next four years and we will get to know each other very well I am sure.

Tonight is about, Marie has already outlined that, it's about us listening, but also about doing our best tonight in Round 1, to get you as informed as possible. We want to hear your opinions, your issues and the process that is underway has already started and I can guarantee you that everyone that does come up tonight will be taken on board by the project team as we work forward on this project.

I think at this point I would like to introduce the panel and the key project people who I invited down tonight to address you. I would start with Nick Churchill. Nick is the hands-on project director who will be leading the Desal 2 Project, and Nick and myself will be taking you through a Powerpoint presentation a little later in the programme and to give you as much information as we can, both from a project point of view from Nick and a more regional perspective from myself.

I would like to introduce John Wallis on the left. John is the Manager of Executive Project but John is in a senior position in Perth and he has overall command across all the effort that is going to go into Desal 2 going forward. John has fantastic experience on a number of major projects for the Corporation and very recently he oversaw the last major source development for the State in our part of the world and that was the Stirling/Harvey Redevelopment and the Harvey Dam. John was the overall supervisor in that project. He knows Harvey Shire and a lot of us very well.

I would also like to introduce David Luketina, David is our Manager of Environment Branch and David has fantastic knowledge on the matters of environment. He has been heavily involved in the Desalination 1 Project and all of his expertise is going to be contributed to the Project going forward. So, look we have got the experts here tonight and there is lot of information to be learned both ways.

So, on that note I will hand you over.

Basically, it is over to you Nick.

Greg Elliot:
I have a reasonably loud voice and I will just try and set the scene for you. We do have another microphone over here, a portable one, so we will try and use that.

I am an independent facilitator, I do this sort of thing for a living, believe it or not. Not always with this many people. So I guess the first thing that I do is congratulate you as a community for coming out here to listen, to learn, to ask questions and possibly to state your point very vigorously. So, congratulations, we will get this right.

I would just like to set the scene a bit. The people who are going to talk here tonight are not trained professional public speakers. They are the sort of people that deliver project, major projects. So, you can imagine if you were in their position standing in front of, I am not sure how managed people we managed to count, several hundred I am sure. So this session as Marie has told us is all about delivering as much information as we possibly can so you can be as informed as you possibly can.

The sort of people that appear tonight from the Water Corporation and there are many of them, you have an opportunity to ask lots of questions tonight and we hope that we have brought along the right sort of people to answer them. We do have a few other people from the Water Corporation that are here, people that will be able to answer environmental questions for example. People that will be certainly be able to answer questions to do with the project, the details of desalination – I am sure we don't want to get into too much technical detail tonight, but we certainly have those sorts of people here with you tonight.

Certainly we have a lot of people who get involved with communication with the community. One of the things that I would like to point out is that the Water Corporation, certainly to my knowledge and the experience that I have had with the Water Corporation – like a lot of other large infrastructure providers that work for us as the citizens of Western Australia, have become a lot better over recent years as communicating with the communities that they impact upon.

I have to say however, that this announcement came as a complete surprise to people. I work reasonably closely with the Water Corporation, as I said albeit in an independent way, and I certainly didn't know about this announcement and I know that many, many people who work for the Water Corporation didn't know about this announcement. Most of the people you have before you right now were working on another water source, roughly within this region, so I guess we are in a little bit of a state of shock and I guess that explains why we have so many people here tonight.

So, the best that these people can do for the Water Corporation is to give you as much information as possible. What you then do with that information of course, is entirely up to you as a community. We must proceed on the assumption – on the basis, that the Government has chosen this location to build a new water source.

So what we are going to do is to say, here is as much information as we can provide you about this new water source, what it might look like, where it is likely to go, give you some information about what a desalination plant is all about, and then we can take some questions from you.

When you came in this evening, many of you would have been given a little yellow sticker, a pad and a pen. The whole idea of that was that we were fairly sure that we were going to get lots of people here tonight and when you get lots of people together, people sometimes feel like they didn't get the opportunity to ask a question or to state their point, so if you feel that you haven't had that opportunity we would like you to make the point by simply writing on one of those pieces of paper. You will have that and we will be collecting those pieces of paper up, we will be sticking them out the front here, we will be having a look at them, going through them, seeing if there are any other questions that we need to answer. So, it is a very effective way for you if you don't get an opportunity to do it verbally.

Some people of course are very comfortable with the verbal way of doing business, so I am sure we will do both of those. And so I would encourage you, if you like to place an issue, a question, a thought, as rude as it might be onto one of those yellow sticker things, we will be collecting those up in due course.

We are going to get on with a presentation from Nick Churchill, Nick is the Project Director of this project. Nick has been working on desalination one way or the other for some time, or water source projects for some time. Nick is going to give you a little presentation that has a little bit of technical detail in it and I would like to get you to pay attention to Nick.

I would like to ask that you questions during Nick's presentation, but quite frankly if we do that we will never get to the end of it, so I am going to ask that you listen and we get to the end of Nick's presentation. I will then call for questions and I am also equally sure that I am probably going to have to cut that question time off after a period so we can then move onto the next phase and some more information.

So, Nick if you could please go through your presentation and I am going to ask if you would use this as well, so over to you. Just make sure we don't get that nasty squeak.

Nick Churchill:
Thank you very much Greg, Chris and the community members here in Binningup, I will get it right, it's been a week. So, I just wanted to step through the process and really give you background as why we need a new source – just quickly.

This rather spectacular graph is inflow to our dams, so really we are talking about climate change and the south west of Western Australia has been hit hard with the reduced inflow to dams as you are all well aware. What we have here is the pre-1974 average is the green line, it might be hard for some of you to see it. Essentially, since 2001 we are about 25% of the inflow that we had before 1974.

So, for us that significant shift is really driving a lot of the new source south west Yarragadee was born on, but now we are talking Desalination 1, Desalination 2. There is a whole range of things we are still doing, we call it security through diversity and essentially we are looking at a whole range of issues, these include recycling, you might have heard of the managed aquifer recharge. We are also talking major recycling in industrial areas, there is something in Kwinana that we s..... at, pocket large quantities of water, but we are also looking at things like catchment, management. Water trading of course locally here in Harvey is bringing up to 17 gigalitres of water, so we are looking at a whole range of initiatives. Desalination is just one of those with the decision that we are proceeding with Desalination 2.

So, I guess that is just a bit of background but, thanks Chris.

I guess the reason why I am here tonight is not about the security through diversity, we are here about the second desalination plant which has been announced recently. Thanks Chris.

I guess we just wanted to think about some of the perspectives of what we call the integrated water supply scheme. The map here shows essentially the water supply scheme in the south west corner of Western Australia. I you look there closely we can see the Kalgoorlie Boulder pipeline there and of course from that, there is spread out a whole network of water supplies to the wheatbelt. If you can see there is the Stirling/Harvey Dam that we recently constructed in 2000, that's when we constructed the Stirling trunk main which links those dams into the network.

So essentially this quilt of water supplies across the State, this is what we are talking about. We are talking about water supply sources feeding into that whole network. For example, water from Desalination 1 will be getting to Kalgoorlie, so it's an integrated system that they are talking about.

If I can point out the difference between the slide. We are trying to hook into that integrated system with the new desalination plant. So that is one of our main considerations, it is how it fits into this overall network of water supplies.

I will just zoom in on what we actually meaning with this proposal. So, looking at it here and it might be unclear at the back there, apologies for that, but essentially what we are looking at is linking

across from the desalination plant just north of Binningup and hooking into the Stirling trunk main. So, somewhere near Government Road/Eckersley Road just west of Harvey actually.

As Chris mentioned it will involve a major pipeline going across to that and at this stage we are still doing our preliminary design on that, so we will be consulting further as we progress with the design for that. But really the focus here is the blue dot on the map which is the desalination plant and I guess having looked at your Notice Board at the General Store you have pretty well pinpointed the location. It is north of town, it is two lots owned by the Water Corporation, currently that has a waste water treatment plant on it which consists of two ponds – or one pond actually.

The area is about 40 hectares so we are talking about a reasonable sized parcel of land that we do own. There are some constraints with existing vegetation and the dune system as you are all well aware, so we are looking at that as part of the final location. We have to take these things into consideration as well.

I guess looking at the map it is about a kilometre north of town and from the highest dune you can see the water tank so it is not that far from town. They are some of things we will have to raise tonight, its visual amenity and how that location, and the impacts of your quality of life here in Binningup.

The big reason I am here tonight is why here. I will go through some of the reasons that we have evaluated the various sites up and down the coast from Jurien down to Bunbury. It was being undertaken behind the scenes, behind the south west Yarragadee proposals, so there was work being done, but very low key. We were looking at certain sites that had key criteria and some of them are listed here.

Near the coast is – I will go through a few other issues why we like locations near the coast, but essentially pumping in and out of the plant is a major consideration for us. Open ocean, you would be all aware that the Desalination 1 and the strict environmental conditions that were placed on the Water Corporation because of the salty water going back into Cockburn Sound, so one of the key considerations for us is that we have quite an active open ocean environment so that we can disperse any of the salty water going back into the environment.

So, that is quite an important reason for the coast, and as you are all well aware if pretty active in this particular region. Some of these are not necessarily the key constraints but environmental issues are very important to the Water Corporation and I will show a slide a bit later.

The decision for the announcement by the Premier doesn't constitute an environmental approval, so we have yet to proceed with that process and that process has various points in time where you can receive public comment, so I guess that is one of the key things that I am hearing is, does the decision mean that it is environmentally approved. And that is not the case.

So, I will step through that process a bit later but there are lots of steps along the way where we will be asking for your comment. I guess the other question is did we have space on the Kwinana site for Desalination 1. What we were faced with there and I have got a photograph is a very constrained site. It is in an industrial area, but what we are talking about there is lots of industry closing us in, so essentially we can't actually fit anything more on that current site and also with the impacts of the environmental constraints in Cockburn Sound.

The open ocean was seen as a preferable location, so we didn't want to double up in that until we had effectively monitored and carried out Desalination 1. I think I have quickly carried out the size of the lots that we have there – 40 hectares. Desalination 1 at 45 gigalitres was 6.5 hectares, Desalination 2 with some of the environmental considerations and nature and the like, we are looking at about 20 hectares of that 40 hectare site, so it is not the entire lot. I guess that is some of the things we will have to work with in terms of how we lay out the pipe.

Some of the big issues for us is as you well know is this does require a fair bit of power, so accessing the power network is quite essential and some of the sites that we looked at are north of Perth and that power infrastructure is not in place. Similarly, the next dot point there is close proximity to our water supply network, so again the linkage into the Stirling trunk main off this is a really good way of getting this water into the integrated scheme. So, they are two of the most important consideration, was accessing the existing products as well as the power.

It is a Water Corporation owned site, but I guess that was predominantly for the wastewater treatment plant so it is a consideration that we do prefer sites that are already owned by us. Some of the other question that we have heard over the last week is why not Kemerton, an industrial desalination plant in an industrial area.

I guess as I have just stepped through, being next to the ocean is quite critical. If you move away from the ocean you effectively have to pump water into the plant and pump it back out. Being near the cost you can actually gravity feed water out of the ocean and into the plant – so you remove that need to pump the vast volumes of water and when we look at it, this is just a bit of a schematic with the coast on the left hand side, but effectively for every one you are pumping in two for every one that you take out and one goes back out to the sea. So, if you are moving away from the coast you are pumping in, put it in Olympic swimming pools for everyone, but 140 going in per day and 70 going out back into ocean and 70 going into the system, so by being near the coast you actually remove the pumping in and out, so that for us represents a major requirement to pumping and energy and infrastructure costs as well. So it is preferable to be near the ocean.

I guess stepping through, we have managed to take a photo of your beach so this is it here and this is what it would look like when we have finished. So, essentially the restoration works and the inlet/outlet structures, the pipes going in and out of the ocean are buried and we would restore the beach as it was before. So these dunes have actual beach access if you are up and down here with 4-wheel drives and also for fishing and the like, so I guess that is the point of showing that. But the forum that is likely to be the answer as well.

Just quickly going through, I guess, having delivered Desalination Plant number 1 a lot of the issues that we faced there is the fact that no one had done it before, so now the plant has actually been operating since November last year. It is operating at full capacity as we speak, it is being heavily monitored as you would have seen in the papers. It is the most heavily monitored and studied desalination plant in the world, in an environment essentially that Cockburn Sound acts as a sort of large sink. Effectively, what we are talking about is that 17% of the water for that integrated scheme, so a large proportion of the water is now coming out of that desalination plant. In terms of litres and volume, 130 million litres, so effectively it is that 70 Olympic sized swimming pools per day.

One of the key issues coming through in the Premier's announcement was it is a climate-independent source and I think that is one of the key messages coming out. With the uncertainty of our climate we are heading towards a sustainable source, we are looking at renewable energy being used on Desalination Plant number 1. We basically are a foundation member as you would call it maybe of the Emu Downs Wind Farm Company at Cervantes, so a similar commitment from the Premier is in the announcement that we would be using renewable energy. So, I guess I can go through a bit of that in a moment.

But I was just going to step quickly through the desalination, what do we actually mean by that.

Effectively, it is just a very large sieve where you are sieving out the salt. So I don't know if I can – I was going to step through the process, we will get a pointer out here, so that I will be able to point out bits. But essentially, what you can't see here is the inlet and outlet, so that basically gets out into Cockburn Sound from that bottom corner there. The building just above Greg's hand is the sea water pump station and that effectively – the water gravity feeds into that and then they pump around in the pipe using that. The bank of rather elaborately painted cylinders is the filtration unit, so you actually filtrate the water and effectively what you are trying to do is get rid – you are not

talking about fish – but those particles and things that will damage the sieve or the membranes in the reverse osmosis process. That rather large as we have described, Bunnings Warehouse is essentially where all the membranes are, so as you pump the water through at high pressure, through a very fine sieve and effectively you take what passes through and that is your fresh water. These operate at very high pressures – something in the order of about 650 litres of water pressure; if you were actually at the bottom of the sea it would be 650 metres depth. As it passes through there it actually is such a good sieve that it demineralises the water, so on the other side, and we will point at it, what we call potabilise, so we make it drinkable and in that process we chlorinate and pour it back and basically make it where it will be ready to drink.

I guess some of the maps that we have seen out there at the moment indicate some rather large tanks off on the left, they aren't ours and there's no smoke stacks, there's no large tanks. The tanks that are ours if you can point to the clear water tank is down on there. So effectively, on this map, the west boundary – there might be a change there – but effectively, that is our boundary. Some of the photographs that you see are representing Western Power assets and also smoke stacks which are found.

None of this, none of that, none of this, none of that – so it is just that bit in there.

So, that is the 6.5 hectares that we are talking about. So, I guess the big concern is potential impacts from a plant like this. We are talking no air emissions, it is a clean process that doesn't have smoke stacks or the like. It is effectively a mechanical process contained within that. I guess the thing for us is access to the beach is one of the real key qualities in the area and as we have in Desalination 1, we have restored the beach, or are in the process of restoring the beach and the dune system. So, essentially we are not talking about some of the plants that you see on beaches that are stormwater drains or whatever. We are not talking about large pipes above the beach, we are talking about a buried structure. Effectively, it is a gravity flow from the ocean intake into the plant. The pumps are very deep under the beach, so we are talking of the order of 8 – 10 metres below the beach and they have to be designed in a way that it doesn't get exposed during winter storms or whatever as well. So, we have to be very careful of that aspect.

The big thing that we are hearing from the community is what is the noise out of one of these plants, is it a constant droning at night.

Noise - We will start with background noise readings, so we will have findings from the community, how it impacts, but we will be abating that noise effectively – soundproofing whatever components make the majority of the noise. Acoustic enclosures over the high pressure pumps in particular and some of the other devices in the plant ensure that we meet all of those regulations and those that are typed or whatever, but they are readings we get in a proper survey around the place. So, that is one of the main ones.

Lighting - Is also coming up from the community. People are saying we don't want to see a halo effect around the plant with major flood lighting and the likes. The plant itself, at night, is manned by one or two people, it is not a major mining facility or the like. The lighting would be designed in such a way that the light spill would be contained – the majority might be security lighting but not work areas, so we are not talking mass floodlit areas and that is one of the key considerations that we are looking into as we go into the design processes.

Effectively, how we contain that, the level at which the lighting is undertaken. Lighting inside the plant as well. I guess the big thing is always the visual amenity. No one comes to the town to see a Bunnings Warehouse and I guess the location as we are seeing it tucked within the dune system. You will be aware there is quite substantial dunes through that area running both parallel with the beach, but also back from the beach, and at the moment the layout we will be looking at for the plant would be minimising visual amenity impacts, making sure your visual amenity from the town is maintained. We are looking at things such as coloured roof structures, non-reflective surfaces, height above the ground, how it fits into the dune system, also how we protect some of the key environmental constraints such as tuarts and mature peppermint trees – so we are looking at those

things in terms of our site plant. So, they are quite important to us and we are just entering the really post-announcement, where we are heading into some of that work now, so, it is crucial that we are here tonight so that we can feed that information forward. So, it is still your input is vital to the overall design of the layout.

Some people might be living along the pipe route and I guess we have got some photos of the natural pipeline that went in the Serpentine/Canning route which links a couple of major pipeline works, sort of out of the Armadale route, central City, south of Perth, effectively we have to deal with constraints such as remnant vegetation impacts to farmers, impacts to road structures as well for the Shire, and essentially you are dealing with quite heavy earthmoving equipment, large amounts of soil, but effectively once that construction factors is through, the restoration process, especially for a below ground pipe which this is, you can't really tell afterwards and that is what we pride ourselves on. That restoration and the lasting effect is you wouldn't even know it was there.

I guess some of it – the issues we were having before were the foam on the beach. This one, you may or may not be able to see is essentially I think it is a 900mm diameter pipe under the beach and again that will be buried fully and deeply under the beach structure and the key factors such as erosion and the like will have to be taken into consideration when we are looking at that.

So, I guess the big thing is that there will be some construction impacts, particularly the inlet and outlet structures do require the construction of pipelines essentially in sand. That does involve some temporary impacts on the beach access, but effectively when we have restored it we will restore if not the same, but better condition in some instances.

Just briefly stepping through some of the renewable energy. I have mentioned Desalination Plant No. 1 is basically you carry all the energy through Emu Downs Wind Farm. Some people have suggested where are you going to put the wind farm in the dunes nearby here. I guess – and I will try and get it right this time – the analogy is, putting some money in my bank and then going for a holiday somewhere and taking your money out of the ATM; it is a similar principle with renewable energy, put the electrons into the network and take it out somewhere else. So, for us we are not looking around your sand dunes for a wind farm as well, we are looking at a range of what options are available at the moment, we are also looking at what might be out there in the future. Things like biomass, clean coal. We are looking at all the range of available options at the moment and we will be developing a strategy so we basically meet that commitment from the Premier which was renewable energy for Desalination Plant 2.

I guess the where are we now, apart from here tonight. I guess we are picking up the consultation, the communication and I think a forum like this is invaluable at this stage in our process and looking at the site and the various constraints. When we look at the issues we will be able to feed back directly and record it and you will be able to debate that, after tonight's presentation on Monday night.

So, some of things that we have been doing, although it was certainly a surprise, we were looking, we were doing preliminary design, we did have reasons for a preferred site. I guess the preliminary design at the moment is looking at how we might fit into the current site. We are looking at things as the best contracting strategy, how we might actually deliver this project, so that is quite a comprehensive strategy that we have to look at in terms of desalination levels about an alliance type contract. Whether that is the best way forward for this one.

I guess the time lines that we are looking at is construction beginning of 2001.

Environmental process - I think that is the next slide is a comprehensive process and we are looking at, at least the end of 2008 as a timeline on that particular process. So we need to complete that before we are constructing anything.

I guess in line with the Premier's announcement we are talking about delivering 2011, if we don't get any more rain I guess the pressure will be on to bring that forward, but we are operating with

that as the contract. There is a commissioning process such as what we have done on the first desalination plant. So the first delivery water will be 2011 and ramping up as you bring more and more of the plant up to scratch.

I guess just quickly with the EPA process, we have yet to refer this project to the EPA. So we are looking at doing that and getting a level of assessment, what requirements they will need for us to prove that this is environmentally acceptable enough. There will be a scoping report, which is effectively the rules by which we are judged when we submit our document to the EPA, so we will do that first and then we carry out any impact assessment on the proposal.

So, things that we are looking at in particular are I guess with the impacts are marine studies, very important to get it all down right, model of the ocean conditions, I guess terrestrial fauna and flora, also very important, but I guess a lot of the focus on what we have been saying since January this year is the marine studies and making sure that when we discharge the salty water it is dispersed in a very environmentally acceptable manner.

So, I think I have actually launched into this slide a bit early, but essentially the marine environment is critical, land flora and fauna surveys, noise modelling as I discussed, getting background readings, what the local footprint of the noise and how to minimise that is very important. The water quality, taking samples of the ocean water and making sure that that is compatible with the process and the quality of the water that will go back into the ocean. Across on the pipelines we have to cross a whole series of wetlands, so they are pretty important for us to determine the impact as we construct across the coastal plain here.

I was going to hand over to Chris with a regional sort of perspective. I guess one of the questions that I haven't answered is how big is this plant. I was hoping that you might have read the newspaper and that we are looking at a staged approach, 45 gigalitres, similar to Desalination Plant No. 1, but we are looking at the ultimate capacity in the one we have and getting approvals and the like for 100 gigalitres. So, essentially double the size, that is what we are looking at, at the moment and I guess there are numerous questions that I will try and answer as we get to them.

Greg Elliot
Chris tells me that his presentation is gong to be very short, so it is probably best that we allow Chris to do that, then I will open it up for questions. I just wanted to point out to you before you even do that, that we are recording the proceedings here today, both video and audio and we do have media here as well. So, the recording will be transcribed, all of the questions will be taken, there will be answers delivered back to you, you will be getting a copy through your association of all of the proceedings, so there won't be anything missed.

This is probably the first opportunity and I guess this is the big opportunity to at least come and hear what this project is all about. But there will be many opportunities. You can see from the presentation that Nick just made that this project is really in the early days it hasn't even gone for environmental approval yet, so there is a whole host of processes that it needs to go through, all of which you will have an opportunity to be part of.

Apart from that process itself, the best way to shape a project like this is to get involved. So, if tonight is any indication of that I am sure there will be lots of people wanting to get involved to make sure the project is shaped the right way.

I will hand it over to Chris now if I can, so Chris will just finish and then I will go over and above.

Chris Elliott
Thanks. There are many, many issues from a regional perspective, I have just put together about four slides covering some of the highlighted issues, it is certainly not comprehensive, but I wanted to share with you some of the thinking that we are going to be applying to some of the many issues

for local infrastructure and the like. So, if I just run through those four areas, like … the land planning.

Firstly, this part of the world is covered by the Bunbury/Wellington Regional Scheme. It is a major planning document that has been around since the mid-90's. That is a starting point, but very fortunately we are at a point in time that where the Planning Commissioner had discussions with them last week and this week and they are very soon to release full public input and a structure plan for this very area and it is the area of that slide.

I have got the slide from the Planning Commission.

So it is the Myalup/Binningup Structure Plan is due for public release very, very soon. There has been a lot of work going into it to date, so that creates a great opportunity for every one of us, the Water Corporation need to do it, but every other landowner with an interest in that whole strip for the future of housing and what is OK and what is not. The big circle you can see in the middle, you can make out our quantity.

The starting position for us is, that is our site in the cadastral perimeter there and it is an existing live wastewater treatment plant. It is the wastewater treatment plant for Binningup currently and that is our forward planning wastewater infrastructure for Binningup and if there is to be a wastewater scheme for Myalup in the future, the plan would be it would come here too. And there is a buffer zone around that wastewater treatment plant and so that is the starting position for any planning or land use in the area straight on that site.

So the basic starting point is that the desalination facility if it is ultimately to be built on our wastewater treatment plant site, is not going to grow any bigger footprint in a way than what we have already got by way of land use impact. So, that is just a starting point.

But, I guess I encourage everybody to be well aware that the Planning Commission have a major process and we are at an ideal time, that they indicated to me that there in a month or two, will be a major structure plan out for public comment. So we will be working closely with them and I am sure with many other stakeholders agree with me.

We will just move on, I have got slide blow up of that site, again there is our land holding, that is the pond system which is currently the wastewater treatment site for Binningup and that is the 500 metre buffer zone around that to protect that land use of wastewater treatment.

Water Plan - Water plan just very quickly. I mentioned earlier, we were close on distributing about the major water supply improvements just to remind everybody, or newcomers what that was. We have got Harvey over here, and there is a major slide showing the integrated water supply system identified.

Harvey is interconnected into the integrated water supply system, but since that connection into Perth from the Stirling/Harvey Redevelopment we have worked to – if you can make out that blue pipeline – people at the back may not be able to see that, but if you follow the dot that is a pipeline where they have got a connection into Myalup and down the highway into Binningup.

So Binningup and Myalup are part of the integrated water supply system already and you receive water from Stirling Dam and other sources contributing to that system.

So some of the issues, obviously a water planning issue is the connecting pipeline, as Nick said that route is not determined, there is going to be lots of consultation to work out the best way to get from the site to the point where we need to connect into the integrated system.

Obviously the major source for all the interconnecting one way or another would be Binningup/Myalup water supply … it would be a great opportunity to have a security of supply and connection. But, more importantly on a regional basis, you can see down the bottom Australind and

there is a bit of blue down there. That is the northern extent of our major water scheme. There is a major water down scheme down there, it is Australind, Eaton, Burekup, Rowlands and Brunswick all interconnected, so it is a small regional scheme. So, it is a great opportunity where the integrated system would now be a lot closer. So, we have gone down to there, bearing in mind Harvey is further away.

So, in the future, and as part of the project, we will be looking hard at future options for regional benefits such as interconnection with our greater Bunbury schemes, so there is security of supply and other benefits regionally.

Also, Kemerton Industrial Park is nearby and there is a lot of work going on looking at the future of that plant as a water deficient area, so future water supply options and waste water issues are planned at Kemerton and this is why with infrastructure obviously we would be looking at opportunities.

So, there is a fair bit of water planning work ahead of us and this is the introduction to you of some of the issues.

Finally, and most importantly, certainly my role as Regional Business Manager is to plan and ensure that the community consultation effort we put in over this project is comprehensive and that all regional issues are identified and heard and responded to and incorporated into the project, so hopefully we can work together and achieve an outcome which is good for the State.

There is a commitment absolute from the Water Corporation to do just that and we will have a great number of people involved in that. Our communication channels are open all the time and there is many of them and I will list those in a second. Your input is vital, so we thank you for coming along tonight, thank you for your input tonight, but again, it is the very first step. As Nick said it is a four year journey for this project. We have a long way to go as we step through. And the methods we use in our communications will continually tailor to meet the way we can talk to a community like you tonight is one way and very effective. We are going to have to adopt different methods for the landowners between here and Harvey and the wider community again will be different and that of course, there are many other stakeholders we have to consider.

Finally, there are many ways to get involved, these are just a few. There is a website, desalination@watercorporation, the website is down the bottom, you can correspond with that email at any time – if you have just got an idea, thought, a bit of input, you want to register as a stakeholder do so there, if you haven't got access to email you can write to us on that special address Desalination 2 with the Water Corp address. We will make feedback forms available, we will make sure they are readily available to community associations and also the Shire and other community involvement store here and the like, and you can feed those into any one of the drop off points. So there are many, many channels and there is our website as well.

And I would just like to introduce to you the key communications people, there is Trisha Lee who is based in Perth and Mick Irving from Bunbury. So, Trisha if you put your hand up. Trisha is leading the communications team based up in Perth, she will be responding to many of the interactions that occur going forward and Mick Irving works in my office as our Communication Project Manager. Mick come out so people can see you. Mick will be working very, very closely with all local stakeholders, so I will hand you back now to Greg.

Once again, we look forward to working with you going forward and we hope the information we have given you so far is a great start and now if Nick, certainly John and David and John, Nick and I between us will hopefully respond to anything you throw at us.

Greg Elliot
OK, thank you very much.