



Media Statement

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Plans put on hold for Wastewater Treatment Plant Community Reference Group

The Water Corporation will review the need for a Community Reference Group for its proposed East Rockingham Wastewater Treatment Plant after its initial attempt to form the group was unsuccessful.

When the deadline for community members to apply to join the group closed earlier this month only two applications had been received. The Water Corporation needed a minimum of five through to a maximum of 10 community members to form the group. In addition, there were two applications for the role of the group's Independent Chairperson.

East Rockingham Wastewater Treatment Plant Project Director Steve Horrocks said that the Water Corporation valued community consultation and community reference groups had proved worthwhile.

"We operate community reference groups for a number of our projects and they have been very useful forums for facilitating a two-way flow of information between the public and Corporation," Mr Horrocks said.

"It seems that there is a lot of community interest in our proposed East Rockingham Wastewater Treatment Plant, so we were surprised and disappointed that not enough people put their hands up to be part of this group."

Mr Horrocks said the Water Corporation would review the need for a community reference group in early 2011 and may re-advertise for members if it is considered worthwhile.

In the meantime, the Water Corporation will continue to consult with the community through other ways, which have included shopping centre displays, presentations to community and environmental groups and an on-line discussion forum.

Subject to gaining the necessary environmental approvals, the Water Corporation plans to start building a wastewater treatment plant by 2014 at East Rockingham between Mandurah and Patterson roads.

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