

**Maunsell Australia Pty Ltd**  
3 Forrest Place  
GPO Box B59  
PERTH Western Australia 6849  
T +61 8 6430 2900 F +61 8 6430 2999 www.maunsell.com  
ABN 20 093 846 925

Ref: 60047533

Paul Rogoysky  
Water Corporation  
629 Newcastle Street  
Leederville

10 November 2008

Dear Paul

**Interim Report/Advice, Declared Rare Flora Survey, Binningup to harvey Deslination Plant Project Area**

As per the Scope and Methodology provided and agreed in the submitted Maunsell proposal dated 10 July, 2008, a survey for Declared Rare Flora (DRF) and Priority Flora was carried out within the boundaries of two sites (Binningup and Harvey) and within proposed pipeline corridors connecting the two sites, during the third week of October, 2008. The surveys were carried out by four experienced Botanist/Ecologists (including local native Orchid expert Dr. Andrew Batty), supported by one Graduate Environmental Scientist.

The survey methodology adopted was using a gridding technique and all areas of native vegetation, or close to fringes of natives vegetation, in the case of cleared or disturbed areas, were examined in detail, by botanists on foot. All personnel conducting the search were familiar with the appearance of the species surveyed and had experience in recognition and recorded the species subject to the search. Gridding of the sites was carried out via sweeps of personnel spaced evenly, covering between 3 metres and 12 metres each per sweep, depending on visibility of vegetation types in differing degrees of degradation. Navigation of the sweeps was carried out using a combination of handheld GPS units, a GPS device associated with a Panasonic Toughbook (portable tablet PC) and magnetic compasses. Orientation of sweeps was assisted by a trail of paper (biodegradable) streamer tied to trees.

No flora of any conservation significance were recorded at either of the two sites (Binningup and Harvey). A number of populations of two Priority Flora species, *Caladenia speciosa* subsp. *speciosa* and *Acacia semitrullata* were recorded in remnant bushland within the lengths of proposed pipeline corridor. In particular, *Acacia semitrullata* was locally abundant and often noted to be a dominant species in the majority of vegetation associations in the area. This interim report shall not report in detail on the occurrences of Priority Flora in the project area.

Two DRF, both native Orchid species, were targeted during the survey. These species are *Drakaea micrantha* and *Drakaea elastica*. No individuals of *Drakaea elastica* were recorded in the Water Corporation project area. A number of populations of *Drakaea micrantha* were recorded within the Western Power site at Kemerton, as part of a related survey, but no individuals of *Drakaea micrantha* were recorded within the Water Corporation project area. In summary, the Water Corporation project area was not found to support any populations of DRF.

Kind regards

Kellie Gibbs  
Senior Environmental Scientist - Botanist  
kellie.gibbs@maunsell.com  
Mobile: 0408 766 346  
Direct Dial: +61 8 9430 2246  
Direct Fax: +61 8 6430 2994