

WATER CORPORATION

MEMORANDUM

DATE: Tuesday 19 August 2008

TO: Andrew Baker, Principal Environmental Scientist

FROM: Vanessa Ugle Manager Aboriginal Heritage Approvals

SUBJECT: **Binningup Desalination Plant No2**

RE: Aboriginal Heritage Survey - Recommendations

The Indigenous Resources Section with the assistance of a qualified Anthropologist and Archaeologist carried out an Aboriginal Heritage Survey of the proposed new Desalination Plant in Binningup.

The survey consists of two parts an Ethnography and Archaeology component. The Archaeology component was carried out on the 20-23 May 2008 and the Ethnography component was carried out with members of the Gnaala Karla Boodja Native Title Claim Group on the 17-18th June 2008.

As a result of the survey being carried out, the following recommendations were made;

- 1) **It is recommended** that as no sites as defined by Section 5 of the Western Australian Aboriginal Heritage Act (1972) were identified within the project area, that the Water Corporation should proceed with the project as planned.
- 2) **It is recommended** that the Water Corporation take into consideration the request of the Aboriginal community to engage two Aboriginal Monitors chosen from the group who participated in the survey to inspect ground disturbing works that affect the construction of the seawater pump station (Lot 33), inlet and outlet pipelines to the sea (Lot 33 and beach), pipelines from the treatment plant site to the seawater pump station (Lots 8, 32 and 33) and the construction of service roads (lots 8,32 and 33 boundaries are not fenced in order to exclude Nyungars and wildlife access through the area.
- 3) **It is further recommended** that the Water Corporation give due consideration to Aboriginal community requests that all water courses crossed for the pipeline are crossed by directional drilling rather than open trenching which is considered culturally inappropriate.
- 4) No archaeological site was located within or in close proximity to the project area in the course of the survey. No archaeological sites were previously registered within this project area. There are no archaeological barriers present to effect the proposed development.

- 5) If the ground is excavated to install inlet and outlet pipes to transect the coastal sand dunes for 1.2km **it is recommended** that monitoring occur by Aboriginal Traditional Owners to ensure that any skeletal or artefactual material that may be present is avoided, conserved, documented and /or collected.
- 6) The most likely areas where archaeological sites, in particular, artefact scatters or burials may occur are banks of rivers, lakes, creeks and exposed sandy deposits. The removal or excavation of large quantities of sediment increases the risk of disturbing archaeological sites that may lie beneath the ground surface. **It is recommended** that Water Corporation inform any project personnel of their obligation to report any archaeological material, should this be encountered during earthmoving, as outlined under Section 15 of the Western Australian Aboriginal Heritage Act (1972).
- 7) If Water Corporation locate an archaeological site in the process of survey or ground excavation, **It is recommended** that work cease in the immediate area. Any skeletal material should be reported to Department of Indigenous Affairs and the Western Australian Police Service. Any artefactual material should be reported to Heritage and Culture Division, Department of Indigenous Affairs.

Please find attached a copy of the Aboriginal Heritage Survey Report “ by Brad Good and Associates Consulting Anthropologists and Archaeologists”.

If you have any further queries regarding this project, please contact me on 9420 3679.

For your information,

Vanessa Ugle
Manager Heritage Approvals, Indigenous Resources