



Peel Preservation Group Inc.

7th September 2017

Ms Christine Hass
Department of Water & Environmental Regulation
Government of Western Australia

ABN: 59 315 206 816

Return Address
PO Box 1784
Mandurah WA 6210

Email:
peelpreservation@westnet.com.au

Website:
www.peelpreservation.org.au

Find us on Facebook:
<http://bit.ly/2dwavat>



PPG is a non-profit organisation devoted to the conservation of the natural environment in the Peel Region of Western Australia

Dear Ms Hass,

Submission regarding Tim's Thicket Septage Licence Class 61

For over two decades now, The Peel Preservation Group has observed with growing concern activities relating to the type, volume, and disposal of waste matter and materials within the Peel Region, and specifically at the Tim's Thicket site adjacent to the Yalgorup Park.

Formally licensed to accept builders' rubble and other forms of inert waste material, the Tim's Thicket site should not have been granted approval for the processing of other waste such as Licence Class 13. Furthermore, to grant approvals without due consideration to the area's classification as a 'National Park' close to an ocean, defies reasoned logic. Then, to compound a lack of sound judgement, neglect to ensure its operation is properly managed or supervised suggests the entire establishment and its workings should now be subject to a thoroughly informed investigative inquiry before any upgrade of facilities are proposed.

A sudden increase in the volume of septage disposal while the site had been officially closed by vote of Mandurah City Council gave rise to further concern. These facts were reported to MCC during 'Public Question Time' and can be referred to on record. On both this and another occasion the Council was seen to adopt a dismissive attitude towards what must surely be considered serious matters concerning our local environment.

It is also noted, and should be treated far more seriously, that the City decided to discontinue recreational water testing at the nearby Melros Beach. Why? Might testing reveal a health hazard?

The issues concerning Tim's Thicket bear disturbing similarities to those at the Oakfield site of Bio-organics where a lack of supervisory control resulted in vast quantities of toxic waste seeping into groundwater and flowing into the upper reaches of the Serpentine River. This resulted in not one, but two Parliamentary Inquiries and the subsequent closure of the site.

In view of the population increase and current rate of housing development, the Council should limit its activities at this site to those already agreed under determination 375, or relocate to an area less likely to have damaging effects on its surrounding environment.

Denis Gray
For and on behalf of PPG Standing Committee