



Peel Preservation Group Inc.

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

Peel Preservation Group Inc.

Hon. Stephen Dawson MLC
Minister for the Environment
2 Havelock Street
West Perth WA 6005
10 September 2018

Dear Minister

RE: POINT GREY MARINA (SECOND SUBMISSION)

I am writing again on behalf of the Peel Preservation Group who continue to be vehemently opposed to development of a marina at Point Grey.

The recently released report from the Environmental Protection Authority indicating that the project has no new environmental concerns is somewhat bewildering to say the least. It is hard to fathom why the EPA has a distinctly different opinion to the Conservation Council of WA whose own environmental scientists are very concerned about the possible hazardous effects of dredging up the estuary floor.

I have attached our group's previous submission in regard to this marina proposal, dated 18th July 2017, wherein our environmental concerns were articulated. I would like to refer you again to paragraph five of this submission. Despite so-called thorough environmental assessment of the South Yunderup canal project, it was very clear to local professional fishermen that the dredging for this project resulted in a sudden crash in the population of the Western School Prawn. Hence the current concerns raised by Recfishwest that dredging for the Point Grey marina may have a deleterious effect on the habitat of Mandurah's iconic blue swimmer crab are valid indeed.

Has the Minister consulted with the Mandurah Licensed Fisherman's Association in this regard? Dismissing local wisdom and experience in any new venture usually proves to be folly.

Also to be taken in to account is the voice of public opinion. A recent brief poll of local residents by Mandurah's biggest local paper, the Mandurah Mail, indicated that more than two thirds of respondents were against the development of the Point Grey marina. Our group is also impressed that several of our local politicians are sceptical of the proposal, and seemed duly concerned about the environmental impact, as well as the strong opinion from their constituents.

We appreciate your consideration of this very important and controversial local issue.

Yours sincerely
Melvyn J. Tuckey
Committee Member
Peel Preservation Group (Inc.)

cc. David Templeman MLA, Member for Mandurah
Zak Kirkup MLA, Member for Dawesville
Robyn Clarke MLA, Member for Murray/Wellington