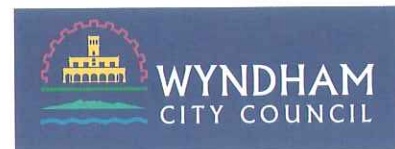
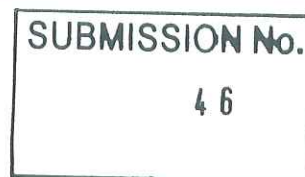


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Your Ref:

Our Ref: 65/250/027
08/13896
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25 August 2008

Committee Secretariat
Environment and Natural Resources Committee
Parliament House
Spring Street
East Melbourne VIC 3002

Dear Sir,

Inquiry into Melbourne's Future Water Supply

Council appreciates the invitation to make a submission to the Inquiry. The following suggestions and comments are offered to assist the Committee with its deliberations on this vitally important task.

Council has reviewed the terms of reference supplied with your invitation. It is hoped that they are able to be extended to include the following additional items:

- o Locally based sewer mining
- o Aquifer recharge
- o Review the allowable quality standards of industrial waste water discharge to sewer (eg. regulate chemical content like salts that are difficult to treat at Melbourne Water Treatment Plants and impact the quality of treated recycled water and its usage)

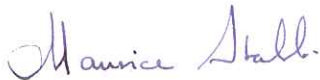
In addition, it is suggested that:

- o the 'red tape' around recycled water from the Western Treatment Plant (WTP) for both Melbourne Water and the EPA be reviewed and simplified for easier access to the recycled water
- o desalination of recycled water from the WTP be reassessed to increase the usage options for the recycled water
- o consider access to deeper ground water bores and a process to desalinate the water that is accessed to make it suitable for sportsfield irrigation
- o deepening or removal of sedimentation build up at existing water storages to increase storage capacity
- o diversion of water from constructed wetlands for sportsfield irrigation purposes
- o diversion licenses for local government for sportsfield irrigation purposes

Finally, growth area councils like Wyndham have challenges that inner and middle metropolitan councils do not face. Wyndham is Victoria's fastest and Australia's third fastest growing municipality. Construction of new active sportsfields is fundamental to creating new communities. The current Stage 3A restrictions, were probably framed without a full appreciation of their impact on growth area councils. As a consequence, Wyndham is facing a crisis for active sportsfields due to its rapid growth which is forecast to continue for the next 15 to 20 years. Growth area councils require special consideration and assistance from the State Government to avoid the long term social implications of new communities without active sports clubs and facilities.

Council would welcome the opportunity to expand on these matters. Please contact Council's Manager City Maintenance, Anthony Monaghan on 9742 0952 or the undersigned on 9742 0835.

Yours sincerely,



Maurice Stabb
Director Infrastructure

cc. Anthony Monaghan