

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

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State # 387

# MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

STATEMENT TO AMEND CONDITIONS APPLYING TO PROPOSALS (PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 46 OF THE **ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT 1986)** 

PROJECT:

PINJAR GAS TURBINE POWER STATION (866)

PROPOSALS:

280MW GAS TURBINE POWER STATION.

PINJAR (174)

**EXPANSION OF PINJAR TURBINE POWER** 

**STATION (357)** 

COMPONENT:

**COMBINED CYCLE EXTENSIONS (866)** 

CURRENT PROPONENT:

WESTERN POWER CORPORATION

CONDITIONS SET ON:

14 MARCH 1989 20 AUGUST 1991

The implementation of these proposals is now subject to the following conditions which replace all previous conditions:

#### 1 **Proponent Commitments**

The proponent has made a number of environmental management commitments in order to protect the environment.

In implementing the proposals, including the combined cycle extensions reported on in Environmental Protection Authority Bulletin 773, the proponent shall fulfil the commitments made during the assessments in 1989 and 1991, and those made in documentation provided in connection with the combined cycle extensions (1994), all of which are revised and consolidated as Appendix 3 in Environmental Protection Authority Bulletin 773; provided that the commitments are not inconsistent with the conditions or procedures contained in this statement.

A schedule of environmental management commitments (March 1995) which will be audited by the Department of Environmental Protection is attached.

#### 2 **Implementation**

Changes to the proposals which are not substantial may be carried out with the approval of the Minister for the Environment.

2-1 Subject to these conditions, the manner of detailed implementation of the proposals shall conform in substance with that set out in any designs, specifications, plans or other

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technical material submitted by the proponent to the Environmental Protection Authority with the proposals. Where, in the course of that detailed implementation, the proponent seeks to change those designs, specifications, plans or other technical material in any way that the Minister for the Environment determines on the advice of the Environmental Protection Authority, is not substantial, those changes may be effected.

# 3 Atmospheric Emissions

- 3-1 The proponent shall take all reasonable and practicable measures to reduce atmospheric emission levels from the Pinjar power station to maintain acceptable air quality.
- 3-2 The proponent shall complete the Perth Photochemical Smog Study. (The Study is planned to be completed by the end of August 1995). Following completion of the study the Environmental Protection Authority will make recommendations, based on the results of that study, on the need to retrofit gas turbines at the Pinjar power station with dry low-NOx suppression systems, or equivalent NOx reduction systems, to the Minister for the Environment.
- 3-3 The proponent shall fit the fourth Frame 9 (nominally 115MW) gas turbine (referred to in the combined cycle extensions document of June 1994) with a dry low-NOx suppression system, or equivalent NOx reduction system, designed to meet the lowest NOx emission level reasonably and practicably achievable at the time of installation, to the requirements of the Department of Environmental Protection.
- 3-4 Failing either the completion of the study referred to in condition 3-2 or the adequate implementation of the study, as determined by the Minister for the Environment, the proponent shall retrofit the three Frame 9 (nominally 105MW) gas turbines already approved in 1991 with dry low-NOx suppression systems, or equivalent NOx reduction systems, designed to meet the lowest NOx emission level reasonably and practicably achievable at the time of installation.
- 3-5 The proponent shall conduct operations so as not to cause, nor to contribute to causing, the ambient air quality goals for nitrogen dioxide listed below to be exceeded anywhere beyond the plant boundary.

The ambient air quality goals for nitrogen dioxide are:

- 1 hour average of 320 micrograms per normal cubic metre, not to be exceeded more than once a month; and
- 1 hour average of 308 micrograms per normal cubic metre, not to be exceeded on more than three days in any year.
- 3-6 The proponent shall provide an audit of greenhouse gas emissions in the annual reporting of the atmospheric emissions monitoring programme.

#### 4 Noise

- 4-1 The proponent shall conduct operations so that noise emissions do not unreasonably impact on the surroundings.
- 4-2 During construction, the proponent shall manage construction traffic noise to protect the amenity of residences by ensuring that heavy construction traffic related to deliveries and commercial vehicle movements are limited to between 0700 hours and 1800 hours on Monday to Friday inclusive.

- 4-3 The proponent shall conduct noise surveys (including baseline measurements) and assessments (including the impact of tonal noise) in consultation with the Department of Environmental Protection.
- 4-4 Within six months of the formal authority issued to decision-making authorities under Section 45(7) of the Environmental Protection Act 1986, the proponent shall provide a report to the Minister for the Environment detailing how noise standards will be met in the future at potential noise-sensitive development sites.
- 4-5 The proponent shall subsequently conduct operations in a manner consistent with the report required by condition 4-4.

#### 5 Groundwater Protection

5-1 The proponent shall ensure that the groundwater quality of the Gnangara Mound is not diminished as a consequence of the proposal (see also procedure 3).

# 6 Dieback Management

6-1 The proponent shall conduct all land clearing operations, and shall manage transport in or adjacent to areas subject to *Phytophthora* species dieback, to the requirements of the Department of Environmental Protection on advice of the Department of Conservation and Land Management.

# 7 Decommissioning and Rehabilitation

- 7-1 The proponent shall achieve the satisfactory decommissioning and rehabilitation of the site and its environs.
- 7-2 At least six months prior to decommissioning, the proponent shall prepare a decommissioning and rehabilitation plan to achieve the objectives of condition 7-1.
- 7-3 The proponent shall implement the plan required by condition 7-2.

## 8 Proponent

These conditions legally apply to the nominated proponent.

8-1 No transfer of ownership, control or management of the project which would give rise to a need for the replacement of the proponent shall take place until the Minister for the Environment has advised the proponent that approval has been given for the nomination of a replacement proponent. Any request for the exercise of that power of the Minister shall be accompanied by a copy of this statement endorsed with an undertaking by the proposed replacement proponent to carry out the project in accordance with the conditions and procedures set out in the statement.

# 9 Time Limit on Approval

The environmental approvals for the proposals are limited.

9-1 The proponent shall substantially commence construction of the combined cycle extensions within five years of the date of this statement. The Minister for the Environment shall determine any question as to whether the combined cycle extensions have been substantially commenced.

Any application to extend the period of five years referred to in this condition shall be made before expiration of that period, to the Minister for the Environment by way of a request for a change in the condition under Section 46 of the Environmental Protection Act. (On expiration of the five year period, further consideration of the matter can only occur following a new referral to the Environmental Protection Authority).

- 10 Compliance Auditing To help determine environmental performance, periodic reports on the implementation of the proposals are required.
- 10-1 The proponent shall submit periodic Progress and Compliance Reports, in accordance with an audit programme prepared by the Department of Environmental Protection in consultation with the proponent.

#### Procedure

- Unless otherwise specified, the Department of Environmental Protection is responsible for assessing compliance with the conditions contained in this statement and for issuing formal clearance of conditions.
- 2 Where compliance with any condition is in dispute, the matter will be determined by the Minister for the Environment.
- 3 The proponent is required to operate the Pinjar power station to meet the objectives of the Environmental Protection (Gnangara Mound Crown Land) Policy 1992, and also to meet reasonable requirements of the Water Authority of Western Australia for groundwater protection.

#### Notes

- 1 The proponent is required to obtain a licence under the provisions of the Environmental Protection Act for the operation of the Pinjar power station.
- 2 This statement is issued on the understanding that the proponent is committed to taking all reasonable and practicable measures to reduce atmospheric emissions from all future gas turbines in the metropolitan and near metropolitan areas.
- 3 The Progress and Compliance Reports required by condition 10 should include the results of monitoring programmes, discussion of the results against suitable criteria and recommendations for changes to the monitoring programmes or operations, as appropriate.
- 4 The attention of the proponent is drawn to Section 47 (1) of the Environmental Protection Act which states:

"A proponent on whom a statement has been served under section 45 (5) and who does not ensure that any implementation of the proposal to which the statement relates is carried out in accordance with any conditions and procedures set out in the statement commits an offence."

Kevin Minson, MLA ACTING MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

# Schedule of Environmental Management Commitments which will be audited by the Department of Environmental Protection

March 1995

# PINJAR GAS TURBINE POWER STATION (866)

WESTERN POWER CORPORATION

#### Noise

Western Power will continue to take opportunistic measurements of noise close to equipment, at the gas turbine station boundary, at the buffer zone boundary and at the nearest residences during the initial years of operation of the combined cycle extensions to establish the noise characteristics that result from various load and weather conditions. The monitoring programme will be developed in conjunction with, and to meet the requirements of, the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), and Western Power will report the results of monitoring to DEP on an annual basis.

# **Buffer Zone**

Western Power will continue to liaise with other government agencies and local government to improve security of the buffer zone around the Pinjar station. The status of the buffer will be reported in the periodic Compliance Reports required by DEP, or as otherwise agreed.

# Atmospheric Emissions

3 The atmospheric emissions monitoring programme, which has been prepared and implemented as part of the existing development, will be extended to incorporate the combined cycle extensions.

# Groundwater Management

The expanded groundwater monitoring programme, which is being implemented as part of the existing development, will incorporate additional groundwater monitoring bores, if required by the Water Authority (WAWA). Western Power will conduct analyses of monitor bore samples and underdrain samples from the evaporation pond and distillate storage area on a quarterly basis, using sampling and analysis procedures agreed by WAWA. Western Power will report the results to DEP and WAWA on an annual basis or sooner if results indicate unacceptable water quality.

### Monitoring and Management Programmes

Western Power will develop monitoring programmes for groundwater, atmospheric emissions and noise to the satisfaction of DEP and WAWA (as appropriate). These programmes will contain periodic reporting requirements to each of these authorities.

# **Construction and Operation Plans**

Prior to the construction of the combined cycle extensions, Western Power will prepare a construction management plan. In addition, prior to the operation of the first stage of the combined cycle extensions, Western Power would prepare an operations management plan.

These plans would ensure the continuing protection of the groundwater in the area, and would be prepared in consultation with, and meet the requirements of, WAWA and DEP. These plans would address the following issues:

- 1 water and wastewater management practices;
- 2 control and management of waste production;
- 3 spill management practices and procedures;
- 4 staff and contractor obligations and practices; and
- 5 public information and education.