Friends of the Esperance Tanker Jetty Association Inc.

6 December 2018

Office of the Environmental Protection Authority
Locked Bag 10, East Perth WA 6892
Registrar@epa.wa.gov.au

Dear Sir

Referral of Proposal under s.38 of the Environmental Protection Act

Esperance Tanker Jetty – State Heritage Place No. 831

I refer to the letter dated 3 April 2017 from Anthony Sutton, Director, Assessment and Compliance Division to The Jetty Group.

I enclose our third party referral of the proposal to demolish the heritage listed Esperance Tanker Jetty.

The Esperance Tanker Jetty was constructed in 1933-34. Since this time, for over 80 years, a uniquely shaded marine environment has developed including the presence of near threatened species such as the leafy seadragon. This dive site is also a significant tourism resource for our community.

Out of the over 80 timer jetties built in WA since settlement only 3 remain intact and these three are present on the State Heritage Register. The Esperance Tanker Jetty is the last remaining jetty of its type along the entire south coast of Western Australia and therefore hosts a marine environment not found elsewhere in WA.
The marine environment below the jetty warrants further study before any decision for demolition is made. In addition, due to the presence of over 500 introduced marine species introduced into the port area over the last century due to international shipping, the jetty provides a marine environment that would not be replicated with construction of a new jetty and is likely a good representation of many of WA’s native local benthic species. For example, this is evidenced by the results of Esperance Port Authority introduced species reports which evidenced the presence of the introduced European Fanworm more prominently on some of the newer structures in the Bay.

To have this unique marine environment easily accessible is an exceptional advantage to Esperance’s tourism industry as well as local community.

I have included for your reference a copy of the Esperance Tanker Jetty’s Heritage Assessment Documentation.

I have also included the Agenda Report from the 2nd February 2016 Esperance Shire Council meeting which demonstrates that only cost considerations were used to make the decision on demolishing the jetty.

Please contact me should you require any further information about our submission.

Sincerely,

Friends of the Esperance Tanker Jetty Association Inc.