



WESTERN AUSTRALIA
MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT

STATEMENT THAT A PROPOSAL MAY BE IMPLEMENTED
(PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT 1986)

PROPOSED GERALDTON PORT EXPANSION

GERALDTON PORT AUTHORITY

This proposal may be implemented subject to the following conditions:

1. The proponent shall adhere to the proposal as assessed by the Environmental Protection Authority and shall fulfil the commitments made in the Notice of Intent (copy of commitments attached).
2. Prior to commencement of any major additional dredging activity not addressed within the Notice of Intent, the proponent shall refer the proposal to the Environmental Protection Authority for assessment.
3. The proponent shall ensure that water within the Geraldton Inner Harbour is maintained at a quality acceptable to the Environmental Protection Authority, so that it does not have an adverse impact on the marine environment or on the beneficial uses outside the Inner Harbour. The document 'Water Quality Criteria for Marine and Estuarine Waters of Western Australia' (EPA Bulletin 103) shall be used as a guide in determining acceptable water quality.
4. In order to minimise environmental impacts that could occur from sediment plumes resulting from dredging, the proponent shall, prior to commencement of dredging, bund all reclamation areas (for both Stages 1 and 2) and take such other action as is required to meet this objective to the satisfaction of the Environmental Protection Authority.

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In addition, should sediment plumes extend beyond the Inner Harbour breakwater, the proponent shall take remedial action to minimise environmental impact as soon as possible, to the satisfaction of the Environmental Protection Authority.

5. All refuelling facilities and fuel links in both the Inner Harbour and Fishing Boat Harbour shall be designed and sited so as to minimise the risk of spills into the Inner Harbour area.

The storm water drainage system and discharge points shall be designed and sited so as to minimise any detrimental impact on the marine environment and accordingly, shall be referred to the Environmental Protection Authority for comment prior to construction.

6. Prior to construction, the proponent shall identify appropriate environmental management for the quarrying and transport of rock associated with the construction of the bund walls, to the satisfaction of the Environmental Protection Authority following consultation with the City of Geraldton.

Bob Pearce, MLA
MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT

22 DEC 1989

SUMMARY OF COMMITMENTS

The GPA is responsible for all activities with regard to the Port of Geraldton, including the present proposal. As such the Authority makes the following commitments:

The GPA commits to managing the increase in turbidity generated by dredging. This will be performed by constructing the bund walls well in advance of reclamation in order to contain the extent of the plume. In addition the discharge outlet will be located as far away from the overflow outlet as possible to allow the maximum amount of suspended sediment to settle out before discharge to the harbour. Dredging of Stage 1 will be limited to one month while dredging for Stage 2 will be limited to four months so as to minimise the period over which turbidity will be generated. Management of turbidity will be performed to the satisfaction of the EPA.

The GPA commits to managing the reclamation activities in such a way as to minimise the generation of noise and dust. In the unlikely event that complaints are received the GPA commits to taking appropriate action to rectify the problem. This action will be performed to the satisfaction of the EPA.

The GPA commits to locating the dredge and associated pipelines such that continued access to the fishing boat harbour and to the berths within the main harbour will be provided. This will be carried out after consultation with port users along the lines of normal practice during other similar dredging programmes.

The Department of Marine and Harbours has undertaken to monitor the beaches on either side of the Geraldton Foreshore Development Marina in order to identify any unforeseen shoreline instability as a result of that project. The GPA commits to remaining in communication with the DMH with regard to the results of this monitoring programme and if necessary, take appropriate management actions in conjunction with the DMH.

The GPA commits to managing stormwater runoff from factories and hardstanding surfaces within the reclaimed area so that spills of chemicals, and other potential pollutants at the Port are directed into drains and captured in silt traps. The design of the drainage system will include a soak well and high level overflow and will be designed to the satisfaction of the EPA.

The GPA commits to not allowing crayfish processing industries to establish on the reclaimed land of Stages 1 and 2. This is mainly because of effluent disposal problems associated with this type of industry.

The GPA commits to not allowing the disposal of effluents from industries into any septic tanks installed on the reclaimed land.

The GPA commits to carrying out management and monitoring programmes designed to detect and address foreseeable contingencies associated with the reclamation works. This includes monitoring of heavy metals in soils to be dredged, modification of contingency programmes designed for hydrocarbon spillage and fire events and the repair of any stabilising structures associated with the works should they fail. These management and monitoring programmes shall be performed to the satisfaction of the EPA.