



WESTERN AUSTRALIA  
MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT

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

EXPANSION OF SATELLITE EARTH STATION COMPLEX - GNANGARA

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 Consultative Environmental Review and in subsequent correspondence (copy of commitments attached).
2. The proponent shall be responsible for decommissioning the plant and rehabilitating the site and environs of the expanded facility, to the satisfaction of the Environmental Protection Authority. At least, six months prior to decommissioning, the proponent shall prepare, for the expanded facility and its site, a decommissioning and rehabilitation plan, to the satisfaction of the Environmental Protection Authority.
3. 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 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.

Bob Pearce, MLA  
MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT

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**Appendix A**  
**OTC environmental commitments with regard to**  
**installation of satellite earth station facilities**  
**at Gnangara**

## **1. Visual Impact**

1.1 The proposed new antennas are centrally located within the OTC Gnangara property and their visibility from adjoining public thoroughfares will be very low.

1.2 The screening of antennas and associated structures will be further enhanced by planting as far as practical local native vegetation including trees, principally around the perimeter of the property, to the satisfaction of the Environmental Protection Authority and the Department of Conservation and Land Management.

## **2. Site drainage**

2.1 All building and civil works associated with construction of the proposed new satellite antennas will incorporate hydraulic drainage designs in accordance with Australian Codes and Practices, requirements and guidelines of the Water Authority of Western Australia, and current practices employed in the Perth environment. Typically soakwells at least 2 metres in diameter and 2 metres deep will be employed throughout the area.

## **3. Septic facilities**

3.1 The septic system design will comply with all requirements of the Shire of Swan, the Health Department of Western Australia and the Water Authority of Western Australia.

3.2 The design of septic systems associated with the new satellite facilities will be agreed with these Authorities before commencement of any associated works.

## **4. Irrigation and landscaping**

4.1 Irrigation for landscaped areas associated with the main new Telecommunications complex will be in accordance with all requirements of the Water Authority of Western Australia including necessary bore licences.

4.2 Native bushland will be retained in the areas immediately associated with the new antennas to be constructed as far as practical, taking account of the need for adequate fire breaks.

## **5. Hazardous materials, chemicals, fuels etc.**

5.1 No hazardous materials or fuels are used in the construction or operation of the satellite earth station antennas.

5.2 Diesel fuel tanks associated with the new Telecommunications Building will be in full accordance with the Water Authority of Western Australia Specification: "Installation of Underground Fuel Tanks in Underground Water Pollution Control Areas". This installation will incorporate two monitoring wells to a depth of five metres. The older existing underground fuel tanks will be removed and

the Water Authority appropriately advised so that an inspection can be carried out.

5.3 The installation of the new diesel fuel tanks will also comply with the requirements of the Mines Department (Explosives and Dangerous Goods Division), together with the necessary licence required to store flammable liquids on site.

## **6. Noise control**

6.1 The most significant contribution to site noise will arise from the intermittent operation of two diesel generator sets within the Telecommunications Building. Perth ITC site boundary noise will meet all requirements of the Noise Abatement Neighbourhood Annoyance Regulation of 1979 administered by the Environmental Protection Authority. Perth ITC site boundary noise levels will not exceed 30dBA.

## **7. Fire protection**

7.1 Fire safety facilities will be incorporated in accordance with all requirements of Local, State and Federal Government regulations. Both the Western Australian Fire Brigade and the local Bush Fire Brigade will be consulted during design and construction phases for all proposed satellite antennas and associated structures.

7.2 Controlled "burn off" of areas within the Gnangara site is presently undertaken in conjunction with the local Bush Fire Brigade and guidance from the Department of Conservation and Land Management on the frequency and extent of such "burn offs".

7.3 In conjunction with the Department of Conservation and Land Management and other local authorities OTC will formulate a "Fire Management Plan" for the Gnangara site to the satisfaction of the Environmental Protection Authority.

## **8. Flora preservation**

8.1 As far as practical, removal of natural bushland for the antenna sites and associated fire breaks will be minimised, and area utilisation contoured as necessary to preserve bushland.

8.2 Fire break areas presently are and will be rough ploughed each year prior to seeding of non-indigenous weed growth.

## **9. Department of Transport and Communications approvals**

9.1 All necessary licences and approvals will be sought from the Department of Transport and Communications for reception and transmission of satellite communications. This process includes detailed frequency coordination with all other communication users in the area such as Telecom, SECWA, Department of Defence, Civil Aviation Authority, Aussat etc.

## **10. Changes in project scope**

10.1 Should any significant changes occur to the scope of the project that impact on any environmental issues addressed in the OTC "Assessment of Environmental Impact" Report of 1989, then OTC shall refer these to the attention of the Environmental Protection Authority for their agreement prior to any associated works being undertaken.