

Mr Kevan Wheeler
SPA Port of Bunbury
PO Box 41
BUNBURY 6231 WA

Our Ref: CMS14337
Enquiries: Leanne Thompson, 6145 0800
Email: Leanne.Thompson@epa.wa.gov.au

Dear Mr Wheeler

**NOTICE UNDER SECTION 39A(3)
*Environmental Protection Act 1986***

PROPOSAL: Construction of Revetment Wall at Point Busaco Bunbury
LOCATION: City of Bunbury
PROPONENT: SPA Port of Bunbury
DECISION: Not Assessed: Public Advice Given

The Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) understands that you wish to undertake the above proposal which has been referred to the EPA for consideration of its potential environmental impact.


This proposal raises a number of environmental issues. However, the overall environmental impact of the proposal is not so significant as to require assessment by the EPA, and the subsequent setting of formal conditions by the Minister for Environment under Part IV of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*. Accordingly, the EPA has determined not to assess this proposal.

Nevertheless, the staff of the Office of the EPA has provided the attached advice to you as the proponent, and other relevant authorities, on the environmental aspects of the proposal.

The EPA's decision to not assess the proposal is open to appeal. There is a 14-day period, closing 12 January 2015, during which, on payment of the appeal fee, an appellant may ask the Minister to consider directing the EPA to reconsider this decision or conduct a formal assessment.

Information on the outcome of the appeals process is available through the Appeals Convenor's website, www.appealsconvenor.wa.gov.au, or by telephoning 6467 5190 after the closing date of appeals.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Sally Bowman', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Sally Bowman
A/Director
Assessment and Compliance Division

For the Chairman of the Environmental Protection Authority
Under Notice of Delegation No. 33 dated 6 December 2013

29 December 2014

Encl: Public Advice

**PUBLIC ADVICE UNDER SECTION 39A(7)
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT 1986**

CONSTRUCTION OF A REVETMENT WALL AT POINT BUSACO, BUNBURY

Summary

The Southern Ports Authority proposes to construct a 230 metre (m) rock revetment wall to provide erosion protection on port authority land and undertake sand renourishment along eastern Koombana Beach, Bunbury.

The proposal was advertised for public comment and the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) notes that no public comments were received.

The EPA has considered the proposal in accordance with the requirements of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act) and the *Environmental Impact Assessment Administrative Procedures 2012*. In making its decision on whether to assess the proposal, the EPA considered the 10 aspects of the significance test as set out in clause 7 of the *Environmental Impact Assessment Administrative Procedures 2012*.

The EPA considers that the proposal is unlikely to have a significant effect on the environment and does not warrant formal assessment. The potential impacts from the proposal can be adequately managed to meet the EPA's objective through the implementation of the of the proposal in accordance with the referral documentation and proponent commitments.

1. Environmental Factors

The EPA has identified Coastal Processes to be the only environmental factor relevant to this proposal.

There were no factors that were determined to be key environmental factors that would require formal assessment under Part IV of the EP Act. The EPA considers that the mitigation of the potential effects on the environment can be adequately managed through the implementation of the proposal in accordance with the referral documentation, proponent's commitments and best practice measures in accordance with this advice.

2. Advice and Recommendations regarding Environmental Issues

a. Coastal processes

The EPA notes that the proposed revetment wall is a part of the coastal management strategy recommended by a comprehensive coastal engineering investigation (Seashore Engineering 2013), jointly funded by the City of Bunbury and the Department of Transport's Coastal Adaptation and Protection Grant 2012/13. The purpose of the revetment wall is to provide protection to Cristal's site on Port Authority land.

The proposed revetment wall is likely to result in localised changes to the coastal processes operating between the Koombana Yacht Club groyne to the west, and Point Busaco groyne to the east. The changes will likely result in:

- an increase in the rate of sand loss along the toe of the revetment wall (local scour); and
- increased erosion on the central part of Koombana Beach, thereby affecting land managed by the City of Bunbury.

The management of these potential impacts is the responsibility of the proponent.

In this regard, proponent has committed to undertake beach nourishment activities to reduce the risk of beach erosion, particularly to the existing foreshore infrastructure set back from Koombana Beach. In addition, the need for future renourishment will be evaluated based on monitoring beach profiles, in consultation with the City of Bunbury. Other stakeholders that should be consulted regarding the extent of ongoing beach nourishment include the nearby Dolphin Discovery Centre and the Department of Transport.

The EPA therefore considers that the potential impacts to coastal processes can be managed to meet the EPA's objective.