



Ken Walter
9420 2479

11 December 2006

Mr M Davies
Chairman – Stoneville Progress Association
PO Box 33
Stoneville Post Office
STONEVILLE WA 6081

629 Newcastle Street
Leederville 6007
Western Australia
PO Box 100
Leederville WA 6902
Tel (08) 9420 2420
Fax (08) 9420 3200

Dear Mike

Thank you for your letter of 23 November 2006 regarding a report in *The West Australian* (24 October 2006) on a desalination plant at Esperance with an associated pipeline to the Goldfields, and its possible impact on the Water Corporation's proposed water treatment plant at Mundaring.

The Esperance Desalination Plant proposal is a private, commercial venture being undertaken by United Utilities Australia. It does not involve the Water Corporation.

If a desalination plant at Esperance did get the go ahead and the water it produced was piped to the Goldfields, the Water Corporation would consider buying that water if it was priced competitively. While this could have an impact on the size of the water treatment plant required at Mundaring, it would still mean that such a facility was required.

From the Water Corporation's perspective, there is considerable uncertainty surrounding the approvals, costs and timing of the Esperance Desalination Plant and pipeline proposal.

The Water Corporation therefore will proceed with planning for a water treatment plant to be located in the Mundaring area to service the Goldfields and Agricultural Water Supply Scheme. As you would be aware, community consultation on a site for the water treatment plant is well advanced. Through a series of deliberative forums, a number of possible locations have been short-listed for further investigation and we will continue to work with the community to progress this issue.

Yours sincerely

Ken Walter
PROJECT DIRECTOR
SITE SELECTION MUNDARING WATER TREATMENT PLANT