

The National Trust of Australia (W.A.)

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Patron
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Ms Sharon Davies
Lot 11
Lance Street
Mount Helena 6082

25 October 2002

Dear Sharon

Firstly I apologize for not being successful in contacting you direct.

Secondly, I have received your "vote of disappointment" and note its tone. In hindsight I regret that at the time of signing a letter, I did not contact my friends to get a second or in this case a third opinion!

Both CALM and "government contacts" in the EPA assured me it was not of significance. My priority was to get the damn thing out of the very significant cultural heritage precinct of Mundaring Weir (which in my opinion has been severely compromised).

In giving the conditional support largely based on the advice that Government regulators would be approving the shift, I signed the letter.

I have undertaken to review the "approval" and more importantly we have learnt a painful lesson about not consulting as widely as we could.

The staff member who inspected the site was amazed on how degraded the place was. He commented on the "fire regime" which in his opinion significantly contributed to this status. As you can appreciate the National Trust was not involved in this. He stressed I was correct in accepting the Government regulators comments (degraded, dieback etc) but it was caused by them!

He expressed concern that due to the sitting of the place eg on the Ridge Line the aesthetic values are definitely compromised. I certainly support this and relay our concerns to all the appropriate bodies!

We also believe the CALM airstrip may be better however, we were not given options.

The Trust will respond formally to the regulators and to the Water Corporation.

Under no circumstances will the Trust tolerate any misuse of our conditional support. Unfortunately this seems to have occurred. I will stop this.

Again - thank you.

Respectfully

THOMAS E PERRIGO
Chief Executive Officer