

Honourable Mark McGowan MLA
Premier; Minister for Public Sector Management;
State Development, Jobs and Trade; Federal-State Relations
5th Floor, Dumas House
2 Havelock Street
WEST PERTH WA 6005

23rd January 2018

Via email: wa-government@dpc.wa.gov.au

Dear Premier

Alcoa Wagerup Buffer Zone

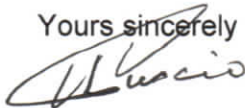
The attached responses from Minister Saffioti has confirmed that there is no further expansion of Yarloop, Hamel and Cookernup. This is directly because of the impacts of Alcoa's Wagerup refinery. As a result, these towns do not have any real long-term futures. Our communities are worried that we cannot grow or diversify into vibrant towns.

Our communities feel that a buffer to benefit Alcoa has been informally put in place at our cost. We have all been left behind. A formal statutory buffer would be a transparent and accountable process – everything the McGowan Government has claimed to stand for. Instead, affected residences cannot claim compensation and our communities are at risk of stagnating or, as we are already seeing, declining.

There has been no consultation about having no expansion or growth for our towns. There has been no consultation about essentially sterilising these towns and causing economic loss to home owners and businesses. There has been no transparency in this process.

We ask that the Government reconsider their position and properly and fully consult with our towns about these important issues which affect our futures and livelihoods.

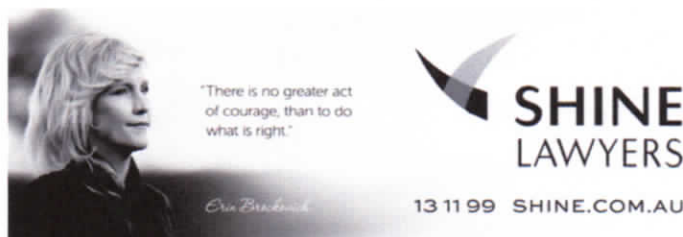
Yours sincerely



Vince Puccio

Chairman: Community Alliance for Positive Solutions Inc

Proudly supported by:





Minister for Transport; Planning; Lands

Our ref: 72-02261/2; 72-02261/3; 72-02261/5; 72-02883

Mr Vince Puccio
caps6218@yahoo.com

Dear Mr Puccio

ALCOA WAGERUP

Thank you for your correspondence regarding the above matter. I apologise for the delay in responding.

I sympathise with the situation you face, however the existing land use planning controls in the area around the Alcoa Wagerup are consistent with the broader strategic planning for the area. **This strategic planning does not recommend any further expansion to nearby towns such as Hamel, Yarloop and Cookernup.** The planning framework in the vicinity of the Wagerup refinery is predicated on the notion that there is no intensification of sensitive land uses in the area.

Buffers can be used to control development or restrict intensification of land uses that are considered incompatible or inappropriate. However, buffers do not, of themselves, result in compulsory acquisition of property.

While reference being made to the encouragement of a formalised buffer in the *Shire of Waroona Local Planning Strategy, 2009*, by its nature, a strategy does not pre-determine further consideration of the merits of imposing a statutory buffer.

The imposition of a buffer as a planning control measure in relation to the Alcoa refinery will not be progressed by the State Government. In this respect, I note that there are no buffers for similar standalone refineries elsewhere in Western Australia.

Existing planning mechanisms are complemented by Alcoa's Wagerup Refinery Land Management Plan, enabling people living in the immediate vicinity of the Wagerup refinery to sell their property to Alcoa. This is not mandated by the State Government and it would not be appropriate for the State to attempt to mandate expansion of a private organisation's voluntary scheme.

In contrast to Alcoa's Wagerup refinery, the Western Trade Coast is a strategic industrial area that supports a range of strategic and heavy industry uses and where there is pressure to increase the intensity of sensitive development. Even so, a statutory buffer requiring the resumption of private properties has not been imposed.

While emissions and licencing of the refinery fall outside planning processes, these are strictly controlled and monitored under statutory processes.

I realise that this is not the outcome you may have hoped for but I do appreciate you raising your concerns with the State Government.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke, positioned above the printed name.

**HON RITA SAFFIOTI MLA
MINISTER FOR PLANNING**

- 9 JAN 2010