



Minister for Transport; Planning; Lands

Our ref: 72-04024

Mr David and Mrs Louise Tansell
PO Box 11
YARLOOP WA 6218

Dear Mr and Mrs Tansell

ALCOA WAGERUP AND YARLOOP

Thank you for your correspondence of 23 July 2017 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.

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.

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 black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke.

**HON RITA SAFFIOTI MLA
MINISTER FOR PLANNING**

- 9 JAN 2018