

Peter Spencer - Tour of Hope

The Peter Spencer Tower of Hope tour was conducted in the first week of November and by all accounts was well received by those who attended. Maxwell Szulc and Janet Thompson gave presentations at the meetings prior to Peter Spencer delivering his keynote address.

The meetings were held in Perth, Gingin, Narrogin and Albany and whilst numbers were not as high as expected a total of 250 people did attend and participate.

Water Services Bill

The intent of the Water Services Bill is to streamline the licensing processes for all existing and potential water service providers under the same legislation with the same powers.

The advanced draft was released in 2009 with an invitation for Public submissions. The Dept of Water has now released a report called "Analysis of Stakeholder Comment".

It highlights key issues presented by the stakeholders and identifies areas where the department has accommodated stakeholders input by making changes to the draft legislation

One significant change made is in regard to disconnection of Supply. Utilities will no longer have the power to disconnect the water flow to an occupied premise. It does allow for a reduction of flow rate in some circumstances.

Further information can be obtained from the DOW website or contact M Zaklan @ PGA.

ERA Water Resource Management Charges and Planning.

On 02 November 2010 a second draft report was released by the

Economic Regulation Authority on a set of proposed fees and charges that would recover the proportion of the Department of Water's Resource management and planning costs that have been justified as being incurred on behalf of private parties.

The EPA has revised the DOW estimated recoverable costs of \$56.0 million down to \$41.0 million. It then removed any of the costs that were included on behalf of the wider community (public good component) and not directly attributed to private parties. The authority has established the efficiency costs incurred by private parties that can be recovered by the Department of Water is \$29.2 million.

A full copy of the document is available from the ERA website at <u>www.erawa.com.au</u> or contact Zak at PGA.

Issued: 25 November 2010

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