

29 June 2004

RBFS Review  
Department for Planning and Infrastructure  
PO Box 402  
Fremantle WA 6959

Attention: Ms Suzanne Rajput

Re: RECREATIONAL BOATING FACILITIES SCHEME  
FIVE YEAR REVIEW - DRAFT  
VERSION TWO - MAY

Dear Suzanne,

Thank you for your time and patience in hearing my concerns , and for your consideration in trying to have our late input included in the department's deliberations.

At BOATING WA, we have the following serious concerns:

- A. At the commencement of the scheme, I believe that in response to boater anger at the impost of dramatically increased registration fees, the government committed \$650000 for the first year, and then \$1,000,000 each year following, to the benefit of establishing better Western Australian boating facilities for recreational boat users. We understand that the proposal under the new format, is to increase the annual funding arrangement , however in light of the shortfall in funding by the department, by an average of something like \$35,000 pa since 1998, money to that value needs to be injected back into the scheme to restore its credibility.
- B. Allowance should be built into the funding equation to cover:
  - i. Annual inflation and
  - ii. Funding should be indexed up to cover relative increase in boat numbers, and therefore registrations
- C. Funding by the department should be on at least an equal basis to that allocated by other state governments. It is totally unacceptable that while WA returns 11% of registration revenue to the boating public,
  - SA returns 50%
  - VIC returns 17%
  - QLD returns 17%

TAS returns 20%  
NSW returns 16%

- D. We have ongoing concerns with the department accepting no responsibility for identifying the need for facility establishment , but simply responding to application. This policy has resulted in the ridiculous situation where Roebourne has been allocated 4 department funded boat ramps while Fremantle has been allocated none ?
- E. We have concerns that in many cases wish lists of local authorities ,are never translated into application because the 50%funding requirement and the ongoing maintenance responsibility is a disincentive

Thank you again Suzanne for your contribution to this project and your open communication line

SIMON JOEL

Chair  
Recreational Boating Facilities Sub-Committee