

REQUEST TO MAKE REPRESENTATION TO MINISTER TERRY WALDRON RE CANOEING WA'S PROPOSAL ON THE WHITE WATER PARK

A decision should be made within a month

Canoeing WA's proposal

Now that public access to Logue Brook Dam has resumed compensation for this loss is not an issue. It is proposed that the \$10 million Water Corporation posted as compensation for the loss of Logue Brook Dam be transferred into a white water park trust fund to compensate for the community loss of the Harvey International Slalom course.

Background

In 1998 Water Corporation closed the Harvey International Slalom Course as a direct consequence of their construction of the Harvey Dam.

When the Harvey International Slalom Course was closed, several elite WA paddlers had to move to Penrith to continue their sport. One, Robin Bell won the bronze medal for slalom at the Beijing Olympics.

Water Corporation promised to retain or replace the Harvey course. It programmed \$10.85 million for the white water park in 2000. It withdrew these funds in 2003, *less than twelve months after they opened the Harvey Dam*. See attached.

Water Corporation has not honoured its promise.

On 9 May 2007, the late Trevor Sprigg, Shadow Minister for Sport and Recreation, spoke in support of his motion in Parliament "That this house calls on the government to ensure the Water Corporation honours its commitment to provide \$10.85 million in financial assistance to Canoeing WA to replace the Harvey international slalom course it was forced to relinquish in 1998". Speakers for the motion included Tony Simpson and Terry Waldron.

On 13 August 2008 Terry Waldron emailed Colin Thorpe saying "Sorry things are a bit pushed in this campaign time – we will support funding for a white water park".

The Canoeing WA proposal will

- Implement the Liberal and National Parties' position on this issue
- Ensure that Water Corporation's promises are honoured
- Virtually guarantee that the white water park will go ahead.

White Water Park

- The white water park will be 500 metres of artificial rapids for rafting, body boarding and canoeing. Water Corporation market estimates are for 300 000 users a year including 12 000 tourists and international events
- Public support is very high. There are currently 8314 registered "Friends of the White Water Park". Its patron is Professor Fiona Wood. Our website is www.whitewaterperth.org.au
- Water Corporation research has indicated that the park will operate very profitably
 - Worst case scenario. Profitable by year 3. \$1.86 million operating surplus by year 10
 - Best case scenario Profitable in year 1 \$6.27 million operating surplus by year 10

The white water park will be a profitable venture and a great community asset for Western Australia

Would you please express your support for Canoeing WA's white water park proposal to Minister Waldron

Email: Minister.Waldron@dpc.wa.gov.au

Supported by

Malcolm McCusker QC

Tony Simpson, Member for Darling Range

Alannah MacTiernan, Member for Armadale

Professor Fiona Wood, Australian of the Year, 2005

Robin Bell, bronze medalist, Slalom, Beijing Olympics, West Australian Sports Star of the Year, 2005

Richard Fox, Canoeing National High Performance Director, Australian Institute of Sport

Bruce Meakins, Executive Director, University of Western Australia, Sport and Recreation Association
Rob Thompson, Chief Executive Officer, Western Australian Sports Federation
Colin Thorpe, White Water Park Spokesperson, Canoeing WA 0409 88 7011

