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V. President:
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Nature Reserves Preservation Group, Inc.

28 April 2008

TO: Giz Watson MLC

SUBJECT: Support for the Perth Hills Protection Bill

Dear Giz Watson,

The Nature Reserves Preservation group of Kalamunda (NRPG) was formed in 1989 to preserve the DOLA reserves from being sold by the Shire for development. Since then the NRPG's role has been to continue to protect the Kalamunda bushland and other natural areas.

We would like to offer support for the Perth Hills Planning bill which you have initiated on behalf of the Perth hills residents and the "Save Perth Hills" organisation, however our preference would be to see the bill legislate for absolute protection, rather than only set up a Planning Committee. We also have concerns regarding the appointment of the Committee by the Minister as we believe it should have community influence. Furthermore, the fact that the Minister has the ultimate say in the matters weakens the outcome.

From another viewpoint, please see the attached a copy of a letter sent to Minister Allannah MacTiernan, dated 7 November 2007, expressing our concerns over the proposed Parkerville development. The comments on the Perth metropolitan boundary (from Dialogue with the City and those tying the eastward expansion, giving Western Power further cause to place an eastern subterminal in pristine natural area, may be useful arguments for legislating permanent protection for the Hills area. It may be worth raising this with the Minister?

Thank you for your consideration and good luck with this Bill.

Yours faithfully,

Sincerely,

Steve Gates
President/Chair, NRPG

Attachments: Scanned map of "Making Perth the City we want – Acting on the dialogue with the Perth and Peel Communities" , showing the urban growth boundary defined at the DWC workshop.
