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Issue

Kwinana Industrial Area Water Use

KIC Position and Key Messages

Water is a valuable commodity which must be conserved and used as efficiently as possible.

KIC member companies are committed to reducing their cumulative environmental impact and have identified water use as a prime indicator of environmental responsibility.

Measures introduced by KIC member companies already provide a cumulative and continuing saving of 8GL of tap (scheme) water a year.

The KIC's policy is to encourage the maximisation of water efficiency and minimise water use, with the focus on minimising use of high quality, potable public water supply.

The KIC is supportive of policies that encourage groundwater recovery; water trading between industries; contaminated sites water recovery and appropriate licensing and management of groundwater extraction to 'sustainable' quantities.

The KIC is also supportive of minimising the amount of water disposed of and is working with research agencies evaluating alternative use strategies for industries and the community in regards to waste water.

Industry recognises that varying qualities of water are required for different community and industry needs and therefore finding strategies and processes to ensure the maximum recovery and redistribution of grades of water within the KIA represents a significant eco-efficiency opportunity into the future.

KIC members are developing diverse sources of water to ensure the sustainability of the KIA.

Background Summary

Kwinana industry has for a number of years been employing various water management strategies to minimise consumption, sourcing and disposal of water within the Kwinana Industrial Area (KIA).

Industry consumes various sources of water including the public scheme water supply which currently consists of dam sourced water and various groundwater sources.

The order of preference for industry water use is site runoff (limited by available area), waste water from its own operations or another industry; recycled water from wastewater recycling plants; superficial and artesian groundwater sources and lastly the metropolitan scheme water supply (irrespective of sources used for this scheme supply).

Industries are monitored and/or licensed in their water use.

As a stakeholder representative, the KIC has been assisting the Water Corporation with its planning study to evaluate water demand and options for supply and disposal through to the year 2020, to facilitate the ongoing development and expansion of the KIA.

The Kwinana Water Reclamation Plant takes secondary treated sewage effluent from the Woodman Point wastewater treatment facility to produce water that is currently used by five industries and which replaces up to 3% of Perth's total scheme water use.

The reclamation plant came about through liaison between KIC members and the Water Corporation over the quality of water required by industry and a desire by both industry and the Water Corporation to minimize scheme and artesian water sources.

Relevant Resource Materials

http://www.watercorporation.com.au/K/kwinana_wrp.cfm

http://www.watercorporation.com.au/W/wwtp_woodmanpoint.cfm

KIC Water Quality brochure Committed to Cockburn Sound's Water Quality

http://www.kic.org.au/Marine_Water_Quality.asp

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