

March 10 2009

Responses to Weekend Courier query on Fremantle Port taskforce

The following quotes can be directly attributed to KIC director Chris Oughton.

KIC does not have a preference for either a private or public sector port in Kwinana and welcomes the move by the state government to establish an expert taskforce to consider Kwinana's port facilities.

In the current climate the handling of major, long term infrastructure projects is good in both the short and long term – which is why it is important correct decisions are made right from the beginning.

In the short term there will be jobs through the construction phase and that will have flow on benefits for the entire local community.

Hopefully contracts for fabrication will be let to local companies, thus multiplying the benefits to the local and State economy.

It is important to preserve capacity in the industry support sector here in Kwinana

In the long term, increased port facilities would be good for the entire State and would add to the viability of our economy.

It is therefore essential that the right decisions are made by appropriately appointed experts and KIC congratulates Mr O'Brien for seeking the best possible advice on the matter.