

## The RA NBOW 2000<sup>©</sup> PROJECT

(Incorporating Albany Anzac 2014-18<sup>®</sup> Re-enactment and Albany Bicentennial 2026-27<sup>®</sup>)

- a Regional Planning Strategy for Albany and the Great Southern.

### **Outcomes - Election 2010 & O'Connor MHR**

- 1. Australians are concerned about how they elect their Prime Minister, and the method by which party politics effects a change of leadership (political opportunism).
- 2. Australians are concerned that their Government and the choices available are failing them, hence the low level of participation and high level of informal voting.
- 3. Australians are concerned about Climate Change, and expect an appropriate response from Government, hence the increased representation of the Greens in parliament, and a mandate for alternative power generation.
- 4. If either major party is unwilling or unable to form a stable minority government with the Independents and the Greens, will the Governor-General be forced to return Australia to the polls (double dissolution) to circumvent a constitutional crisis?
- 5. If the Government formed and the Prime Minister appointed fail to hand down a budget that at least maintains the continuity of public services, will there be a motion of no-confidence in the Government, and a subsequent return to the polls (double dissolution) at the direction of the Governor-General of Australia?
- 6. Australians support the introduction of a Mining Tax something between the MRRT and the RSPT which should principally address the reduction of carbon emissions, but which after negotiation through parliament, may well probably have to pay off the accumulated debt of Labor.
- 7. A hung parliament with the balance of power in the House of Representatives held by six Independents means that any legislative agenda outside of the two-party agreed norm will struggle for support – fortunately, five of the Independents are regionally based, and each is essentially looking for an infrastructure investment solution as a priority.
- 8. The Australian Greens holding the balance of power in the Senate, and that means that Uranium Mining and Nuclear Power have been set back at least 5 years geo-sequestration of carbon emissions will either be proven possible or a complete waste of time and money, with the inevitable disclosure that renewables can not perform the required task.

- 9. The Australian Greens holding the balance of power in the Senate means that their legislative agenda will be the focus of innovation and performance when the accountability process kicks in to the next federal election which may extend to consideration of one-vote one-value political reform (including the Senate).
- 10. With Peak Oil looming, there will be greater emphasis placed on the 'electric city' as a response to that process, and as a consequence more dependence on coal fired power stations, and a more rapid transition to gas powered transport a complete re-engineering of the heavy freight industry based on rail transport rather than road where possible.
- 11. After 30 years, Ironbar Wilson Tuckey of the WA Liberals is no longer, and Tony Crook of the WA Nationals is going to Canberra to seek Royalties for Regions for O'Connor, despite being told by the other members of the Nationals that it just isn't on or will the Independents prevail to some extent?
- 12. Nothing changes for Albany does Tony Crook support the Grange Resources project? How would the inclusion or exclusion of magnetite as a taxable resource play out for the purposes of the Southdown Project at Wellstead and Albany and the Great Southern's major new foray into mining?
- 13. Is the proposed MRRT or RSPT Mining Tax constitutionally valid? Would a 'Royalties for Regions' taxation concession be acceptable to parliament or constitutionally valid?
- 14. Elected on a platform to openly oppose the Mining Tax (MRRT or RSPT), will the newest WA National / Independent roll over in order to garner legislative support for an O'Connor infrastructure program roads, railway, gas, water, electricity, airports, seaports?
- 15. Does the Member for O'Connor support the dumping of dredge spoil in King George Sound, or will the Greens force a revisit of Ministers Garrett and Faragher's decisions and if so, how would the proposal vary from that currently approved?
- 16. How will the Member for O'Connor and the Australian Greens respond to BHP Billiton's proposed Yeelirrie Uranium Mine? What is the future for Uranium exports from (Western) Australian ports? What is the future for Australia's existing export trade agreements pertaining to Uranium ore?
- 17. Does the Member for O'Connor support Albany Anzac 2014-18? Will he champion the Albany Waterfront Project (and the Woolstores site) for the purposes of encouraging tourism and hospitality in the lead-up to this major event?
- 18. Will the Member for O'Connor champion Albany Airport's upgrade to international status to facilitate the very first of Australia's #1 cultural heritage events?
- 19. Will the Member for O'Connor support the creation of an Albany Port Corporation funded by partial privatisation and investment from superannuation funds and infrastructure groups as a method to deliver a win-win outcome for the balance of the industry groups operating in the Great Southern?

# Neil Smithson for O'Connor MHR 2010

Allow me to introduce myself as an Independent Candidate for the Federal seat of O'Connor in 2010 – an independent with a real action plan that will move us forward. I would appreciate you forwarding this PDF to your circle of friends for their consideration, if you feel so inclined.

You may care to review my policy statements, available at :

http://www.smithsonplanning.com.au/index\_files/rainbow2000q.htm



#### If elected, these are the things I will support :

- 1. State Government of Manypeaks (Commonwealth of Australia)
- 2. State Government of Recherche Goldfields (Commonwealth of Australia)
- 3. Population growth and regional development throughout Australia
- 4. Uranium Mining & Nuclear Power
- 5. Port Corporations / Seaport relocation for Albany and Esperance
- 6. Gas pipeline from Bunbury via Albany to Esperance
- 7. Railway line linking Newdegate, Lake King, Ravensthorpe & Esperance
- 8. Railway line linking Leonora, Wiluna & Newman
- 9. Anzac 2014-18 celebrations Albany Anzac Re-enactment 2014 (\$100m)
- 10. LNG Highways Albany, South Coast, Great Eastern, Goldfields, Esperance
- 11. Bremer Basin oil & gas exploration and biofuels research / production
- 12. Desalination for water supply salinity management
- 13. Carbon pricing for CPRS emissions & renewable power generation
- 14. Private health insurance & regional private hospitals
- 15. <u>Empowerment, self-determination & private enterprise</u>

If elected, these are the things I would not support :

- 1. Minerals Resource Rent Tax (or the former RSPT) it is not in regional Australia's interest to support this new tax
- 2. More government from or by Canberra & Perth it is spurious to suggest that either Perth or Canberra can do a better job locally than the people in our communities
- 3. Australian Constitutional Monarchists I am sixth generation Australian and support the monarchy and Australia's heritage, but it is time we as a nation moved on to represent ourselves to the World as one society in freedom.

I note with interest after the first so-called leaders' debate that the phrase 'Peak Oil' did not feature once in the entire discussion – politicians, the moderator or media panelists.

There is a lot of information available from the website to justify my assessment of priorities, but by and large the most immediate major concern would be the emerging impact of Peak Oil. This is reflected in my commitment to uranium mining & nuclear power, expanding the gas pipeline network, extending the railway network, planning for LNG highways, encouraging Bremer Basin oil & gas exploration, desalination for water supply, carbon pricing, and renewable energy – most importantly, it is a pragmatic expression of how we as a community can address local and global climate change and the need to alter our energy management strategy.

While a lot of O'Connor people are concerned about the Government's proposed Mineral Resource Rent Tax (MRRT), in my opinion there are valid grounds to oppose the legislation in both the Australian Constitution and Parliament. The main concern with the MRRT would be if Labor and the Greens hold the balance of power in both the House and the Senate, which effectively would mean that Australians will fundamentally change the basis of taxation in this country (without constitutional referendum) so as to supplement ongoing federal budget deficits where the government can't make ends meet now.

I think it takes courage to place your family in a boat, and head out across the seas in pursuit of a new and better life. The refugee migration issue is consuming too much political time, money and opportunity for us all, and I would handle the problem differently to make the process work for Australia's interests. There is no doubt in my mind that regional Australia can support population growth, whether that is a function of birth rate or migration. People are looking for government to say what can be done – clear concise guidance based on good planning that removes both red and green tape to instil confidence and encourage investment.

Private enterprise is the foundation of our society – and my strategy is unashamedly probusiness & commonsense. The alternative is government intervention – which can only take place as a function of taxation. Most people believe that Royalties for Regions has been a boon, and I agree – so try to imagine the return on investment to a State Government of Manypeaks and Recherche Goldfields. It really boils down to whether you think the State of Western Australia acts in the best interest of regional development, or does the State's wealth mainly go back to Perth.

Albany Anzac 2014-18 should be self-explanatory – Australia's #1 cultural heritage event deserves to be celebrated in style and with reflection.

While it was the Federal Coalition (and in particular the Hon. Wilson Tuckey MP – Minister for Forestry & Conservation) that established and oversaw the Agribusiness MIS taxation scheme and ignored the Rainbow 2000<sup>®</sup> Project from 1997–2007, it is Federal Labor (and in particular the Hon. Anthony Albanese MP – Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development

& Local Government) that has subsequently established Infrastructure Australia, Regional Development Australia and now the National Anzac Centenary Commission, as well as the prospect of the MRRT or RSPT – nothing has changed, the emphasis is still on job creation and investment leading to wealth distribution.

Your vote is very important, and your preference distribution is yours, and yours alone to choose. I am not going to denigrate Wilson Tuckey as the sitting member, or Julia Gillard and the current Government – this election is about choosing a future for ourselves. That starts now with your choice for O'Connor in the House of Representatives, and the Western Australian senate team.

Thank you for your attention - if you would care to discuss any aspect of my policy framework, please call me.

I would appreciate your support, and promise you that I will do my best for O'Connor.

Neil R. Smithson

Neil R. Smithson Independent Candidate for O'Connor 2010

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### - a Regional Planning Strategy for Albany and the Great Southern.

The Rainbow 2000<sup>®</sup> Project is a doctoral research & corporate investment program analysing the relationship between planning and politics in Economic Development in Australia, and more particularly a case study of Albany & the Great Southern Region of Western Australia – thesis : Is planning the antithesis of politics?

The following is a proposed model for regional governance evolution embracing Federal, State, Regional and Local transitional arrangements for a period of four years from proclamation (open elections thereafter).

#### <u>BEFORE (Western Australia)</u>

15.12.2011

Federal Member for O'Connor (Crook) Senators for Western Australia (12)

**3 Members of Legislative Assembly** Member for Albany (Watson) Member for Blackwood-Stirling (Redman) Member for Wagin (Waldron)

**3 Members of Legislative Council** Member for South-west (McSweeney) Member for South-west (Holt) Member for Agricultural (Benson)

**Great Southern Development Commission** Chairman GSDC (Rundle)

**Southern Aboriginal Corporation** Noongar Elder (Penny)

14 LGAs of the Great Southern Mayor, City of Albany Deputy Mayor, City of Albany President, Shire of Denmark President, Shire of Plantagenet President, Shire of Cranbrook President, Shire of Kojonup President, Shire of Broomehill / Tambellup President, Shire of Gnowangerup President, Shire of Jerramungup President, Shire of Woodanilling President, Shire of Katanning President, Shire of Kent President, Shire of Wagin President, Shire of Dumbleyung President, Shire of Lake Grace

#### AFTER (Manypeaks)

Federal Member for Manypeaks (TBA) Senator for Manypeaks (1)

**3 Members of Legislative Council** Member for Albany Member for Stirling Member for Piesse

**3 Members of Legislative Council** Member for Great Southern Member for Great Southern Member for Great Southern

**1 Member of Legislative Council** Member for Great Southern

**1 Member of Legislative Council** Member for Noongars

15 Members of Legislative Assembly Member for Frederickstown Member for Vancouver Member for Denmark Member for Plantagenet Member for Cranbrook Member for Kojonup Member for Broomehill Tambellup Member for Gnowangerup Member for Jerramungup Member for Woodanilling Member for Katanning Member for Kent Member for Wagin Member for Dumbleyung Member for Lake Grace

#### **BEFORE (Western Australia)**

AFTER (Recherche Goldfields)

A similar model for regional governance evolution would be worked up in consultation with stakeholders for Recherche Goldfields (with Kalgoorlie as the State capital), again embracing Federal, State, Regional and Local transitional arrangements for a period of four years from proclamation (open elections thereafter).

Most of our work is now done on Facebook, using photographs in albums :

- \* Neil Smithson Albany Anzac 2014-18 (Vols. 1-2)
- Smithson Planning Albany Centenary of Anzac Alliance (Vol. 1)
- \* Smithson Planning Albany Major Redevelopment Opportunities (Vol. 1)
- Smithson Planning Albany Waterfront Project & Entertainment Centre (Vol. 1)
- Smithson Planning <u>Anzac Centenary Commemorations 2014-18</u> (Vols. 1-3)
  - \* Smithson Planning Anzac Gallipoli History 2015 (Vols. 1-3)
- Smithson Planning Avon 2020 Regional Planning Strategy (Vol. 1)
- Smithson Planning Batavia 2020 Regional Planning Strategy (Vol. 1)
- Smithson Planning Fremantle South Metropolitan Regional Planning Strategy (Vol. 1)
- Smithson Planning Gascoyne 2020 Regional Planning Strategy (Vol. 1)
- \* Smithson Planning Kimberley Dreaming 2020 Regional Planning Strategy (Vol. 1)
- \* Smithson Planning Leeuwin 2020 Regional Planning Strategy (Vol. 1)
- \* Smithson Planning Perth North Metropolitan Regional Planning Strategy (Vol. 1)
- Smithson Planning Pilbara 2020 Regional Planning Strategy (Vol. 1)
- Smithson Planning <u>Rainbow 2000 Project</u> (Vols. 1-3)
- \* Smithson Planning Rainbow 2000 Project (Powerpoint Presentation Short Version)
- \* Smithson Planning Rainbow 2000 Project (Commonwealth Response)
- Smithson Planning Rainbow 2000 Project (State Government Response Vols. 1-2)
- \* Smithson Planning Rainbow 2000 Project (Local Government Response)
- Smithson Planning Rainbow 2000 Project (Private Sector Response)
- Smithson Planning Rainbow 2000 Project (Media Response)
- \* Smithson Planning Recherche Goldfields 2020 Regional Planning Strategy (Vol. 1)
- Smithson Planning Peak Oil, Gas & Nuclear Power (Vols. 1-2)
- Smithson Planning Western Australian Farmers (Vol. 1).

Discussion papers also available from the Smithson Planning website :

- \* Albany International Airport achieving regional accessibility for trade
- Albany Industrial Seaport Relocation Plan achieving regional accessibility for trade
- \* Albany's UNESCO World Heritage Anzac & Convict Colonial Settlement international tourism
- \* Albany & the Corruption Crime Commission WA the complexity of regional development
- \* Anzac 2014-18 a National Celebration Strategy there is a role for each Australian state / various cities
- Global Warming & Sea Level Change profound implications for insurance & property development.
- \* Manypeaks Transitional Governance a challenge for the State of Western Australia
- Peak Oil Gas & Nuclear Power everybody's growing concern
- Planning Instruments of Western Australia the bottom line of WA Planning Commission activities
- Planning & the Australian Media part of the problem / part of the solution

Author's notes : The Rainbow  $2000^{\circ}$  Project is both a corporate investment strategy and a doctoral research program that examines the hypothesis "Is planning the antithesis of politics? – a case study of Albany & the Great Southern Region, Western Australia, focusing on the interrelationship between regional development and Local, State & Federal politics in contemporary Australia.

In thirteen years, the *West Australian* Newspaper and the *Sunday Times* never published one article about Rainbow 2000<sup>®</sup> that we are aware of (one exception : West letters 30 July 2007 Page 15); the *WA Business News* published one small piece suggesting some reticence about the continuity of port access in the framework of a significant port expansion program to accommodate grain, woodchips and iron ore.

*Perth television* **STW9**, **TVW7**, **NEW10** & **SBS28** have never covered Rainbow 2000<sup>©</sup>, and both *GWN7* and *WIN9* as regional networks have not canvassed the regional strategy – GWN's Noel Brunning stood for the federal seat of Forrest (Independent) in 2007; Reece Whitby from Channel 7 Perth stood for the state seat of Morley (Labor) in 2008; and Karen Brown from the West Australian and the Weekend Australian stood for the state seat of Mt. Lawley (Labor) in 2008 – Whitby and Brown being part of Premier Alan Carpenter's parachute dream team – all were unsuccessful for a variety of reasons.

**ABC** National (radio & television) maintains a largely anti-development stance in the Great Southern, although nationally they have done some great things for Anzac and via Difference of Opinion. **RadioWest** sceptically accepted a paid advertisement.

There were the original paid advertisements referred to by the Albany Town & Shire Councils et.al. of 13 November 1997 appearing in the *Albany Advertiser* and the *Albany & Great Southern Weekender*, with the occasional timely paid reminder advertisement in the Albany Advertiser to reflect that Rainbow  $2000^{\circ}$  – a Regional Planning Strategy for Albany & the Great Southern was not going away that easy.

One rather prominent (and perhaps cynical) article appeared in the *Weekend Australian* in the lead-up to Mayoral / Council elections for the City of Albany in 1999, following which the author was a 'failed' candidate. Otherwise, all communication channels have been pursued vigorously with extensive material being referred to politicians on all sides of the debate, media journalists in print, radio and television and the *National Press Club* in Canberra.

The only thing people choose to believe in is the power of authority and / or the investment dollar – media was no exception, regardless of whether the program could have been beneficial to their commercial aspirations. The alternative is that the non-Albany based media from Perth and Bunbury understood only too well the implications, and misconstrued growth and development as competitive threat (doubtful).

Local politics and commercial relationship both took their toll on local newspaper coverage and balanced representation of the issues. It is reasonable to suggest that few people understand let alone endorse long-term strategic planning that doesn't directly benefit them instantly.

In twelve years, the program of community consultation / participation has included advice in some form or other to governance :

- Australian embassies of the nations of the World, the United Nations & European Union
- Covernor-Generals of Australia, and every Federal member of parliament (House / Speakers & Senate / Presidents)
- Prime Ministers & Federal Cabinet Members, and the Leaders of the Opposition & Shadow Cabinet Members & Minority Parties
- Covernors of Western Australia, and every State member of parliament (Legislative Assembly & Council)
- \* Western Australian Premiers & Cabinets, and the Leaders of the Opposition & Shadow Cabinets & Minority Parties
- Premiers / Ministers of New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania
- Leaders of the Opposition / Shadow Ministers of New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania
- Chief Ministers / Ministers of the Australian Capital Territory and Northern Territory
- Councils of the Cities of Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne, Hobart, Adelaide and Perth
- Advisory Council of Infrastructure Australia & the Convenors of the Australia 2020 Forum
- Relevant Federal and State agencies / regulatory authorities
- Great Southern, and other Regional Development Commissions of Western Australia
- Fremantle Ports, Westralia Airports Corporation, and the Albany Port Authority
- Australian Local Government Association and each State / Territory Association
- Cocal Government Authorities of Western Australia & the Great Southern Region
- Mayors / Presidents / Commissioners & Councillors of the Town, Shire and City of Albany
- Presidents & Executive Councillors of the Returned & Services League of Australia (National & State Divisions)
- Presidents & Executive Councillors of the Planning Institute of Australia
- Presidents & Executive Councillors of the Environment Institute of Australia & New Zealand
- Presidents & Executive Committees of the Australian, Western Australian and Albany Chambers of Commerce & Industry
- Presidents & Executive Committees of the Australian & Western Australian National Trusts & the Albany Historical Society.

For a comprehensive (and interactive) list of community participation / consultation, refer to :

- www.smithsonplanning.com.au/R2000Participation1997-2006.zip (275 A4 pages : ~ 14,422 entries : 0.81Mb zipped : 4.04Mb)
- www.smithsonplanning.com.au/R2000Participation2007-2008.zip (377 A4 pages : ~ 19,997 entries : 1.56Mb zipped : 7.46Mb)
- www.smithsonplanning.com.au/R2000Participation2009-2010.zip (431 A4 pages : ~ 22,994 entries : 2.78Mb zipped : 12.10Mb)
- www.smithsonplanning.com.au/R2000Participation2011-2027.zip (223 A4 pages : ~ 11,000+ entries : 1.26Mb zipped : 5.23Mb).

It is not our place to judge the politics - that will be for the electorate, and the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions.

All in all - things are looking very good. A general disclaimer applies to this material - don't assume, please ask.

#### Date : Thursday, 15 December 2011

#### Neil R. Smithson

Managing Director PIA<sup>CPP</sup>, EIANZ, NELA, LGPA, AAPC, NTWA, FDI, CSC 2003

15.12.2011