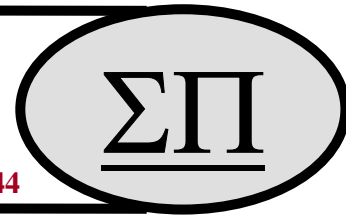


# SMITHSON PLANNING

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## The RAINBOW 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.

### *Planning & the Australian Media*

*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 are a series of attempts to engage Australian media in the Rainbow debate.**

**From:** Smithson [<mailto:smithson@smithsonplanning.com.au>]

**Sent:** Thursday, 19 August 2010 1:13 PM

**To:** 'Wayne Harrington' [manager@albanyweekender.com.au](mailto:manager@albanyweekender.com.au); [Ben.Spencer@AlbanyAdvertiser.com](mailto:Ben.Spencer@AlbanyAdvertiser.com);  
[Anne.Skinner@kalminer.com.au](mailto:Anne.Skinner@kalminer.com.au); [Tim.Slater@ruralpress.com](mailto:Tim.Slater@ruralpress.com); [norman.jane@abc.net.au](mailto:norman.jane@abc.net.au);  
[Claire.Grantham@gwn.com.au](mailto:Claire.Grantham@gwn.com.au); 'Alison Miller' [albanynews@winwa.com.au](mailto:albanynews@winwa.com.au); [weirs@sundaytimes.newsltd.com.au](mailto:weirs@sundaytimes.newsltd.com.au);  
[Brett.McCarthy@wanews.com.au](mailto:Brett.McCarthy@wanews.com.au); [barrasst@theaustralian.com.au](mailto:barrasst@theaustralian.com.au); [Paul.Mole@countryman.com.au](mailto:Paul.Mole@countryman.com.au);  
[walter.puffler@mbtimes.com.au](mailto:walter.puffler@mbtimes.com.au); [info@denmarkbulletin.com](mailto:info@denmarkbulletin.com)

**Cc:** 'Ken Matts' [journo@albanyweekender.com.au](mailto:journo@albanyweekender.com.au); [Nick.Sas@albanyadvertiser.com.au](mailto:Nick.Sas@albanyadvertiser.com.au);  
[Phoebe.Wearne@albanyadvertiser.com](mailto:Phoebe.Wearne@albanyadvertiser.com); [Amy.Hallett@albanyadvertiser.com](mailto:Amy.Hallett@albanyadvertiser.com); [Sam.Tomlin@kalminer.com.au](mailto:Sam.Tomlin@kalminer.com.au);  
[ruleb@sundaytimes.newsltd.com.au](mailto:ruleb@sundaytimes.newsltd.com.au); [Paul.Murray@wanews.com.au](mailto:Paul.Murray@wanews.com.au); [taylorp@theaustralian.com.au](mailto:taylorp@theaustralian.com.au);  
[Ben.Slater@greatsouthernherald.com.au](mailto:Ben.Slater@greatsouthernherald.com.au); [editor@mbtimes.com.au](mailto:editor@mbtimes.com.au); [Kate.Matthews@countryman.com.au](mailto:Kate.Matthews@countryman.com.au);  
[Haidee.Vandenbergh@countryman.com.au](mailto:Haidee.Vandenbergh@countryman.com.au); [news@narroginobserver.com.au](mailto:news@narroginobserver.com.au)

**Subject:** Albany - Great Southern - O'Connor - WA

Mr Wayne Harrington – Albany & Great Southern Weekender  
Mr Ben Spencer – The Albany Advertiser  
Ms Anne Skinner – The Kalgoorlie Miner  
Mr Tim Slater – The Esperance Express  
Ms Jane Norman – ABC National WA  
Ms Claire Grantham – GWN Television Great Southern  
Ms Alison Miller – WIN Television Great Southern  
Mr Sam Weir – The Sunday Times  
Mr Brett McCarthy – The West Australian  
Mr Tony Barrass – The Australian  
Mr Paul Mole – The Countryman  
Mr Walter Puffler – Manjimup Bridgetown Times  
Mr Andrew Gill – Denmark Bulletin  
Mr Ben Slater – Great Southern Herald  
Mr Tyson Cattle – Narrogin Observer

With my compliments – Neil Smithson.

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**From:** Smithson [<mailto:smithson@smithsonplanning.com.au>]

**Sent:** Thursday, 19 August 2010 12:23 PM

Written & Authorised by Neil Smithson of 364 Middleton Road, Albany, Western Australia 6330

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**Smithson Planning – Consultants in National Investment Growth Pathing**  
PO Box 5377 Albany WA 6332 Tel : (08) 9842 9841 Fax : (08) 9842 9843 Mob : 0428 556 444

To: [wa-government@dpc.wa.gov.au](mailto:wa-government@dpc.wa.gov.au)

Cc: [Eric.Ripper@mp.wa.gov.au](mailto:Eric.Ripper@mp.wa.gov.au); [Giz.Watson@mp.wa.gov.au](mailto:Giz.Watson@mp.wa.gov.au); [Peter.Watson@mp.wa.gov.au](mailto:Peter.Watson@mp.wa.gov.au);  
[Ken.Travers@mp.wa.gov.au](mailto:Ken.Travers@mp.wa.gov.au); [Barry.House@mp.wa.gov.au](mailto:Barry.House@mp.wa.gov.au); [Nigel.Hallett@mp.wa.gov.au](mailto:Nigel.Hallett@mp.wa.gov.au); [Colin.Holt@mp.wa.gov.au](mailto:Colin.Holt@mp.wa.gov.au);  
[Sally.Talbot@mp.wa.gov.au](mailto:Sally.Talbot@mp.wa.gov.au); [Adele.Farina@mp.wa.gov.au](mailto:Adele.Farina@mp.wa.gov.au); [Ken.Baston@mp.wa.gov.au](mailto:Ken.Baston@mp.wa.gov.au);  
[Helen.Bullock@mp.wa.gov.au](mailto:Helen.Bullock@mp.wa.gov.au); [Jon.Ford@mp.wa.gov.au](mailto:Jon.Ford@mp.wa.gov.au); [shaz.fungclarke@mp.wa.gov.au](mailto:shaz.fungclarke@mp.wa.gov.au);  
[Robin.Chapple@mp.wa.gov.au](mailto:Robin.Chapple@mp.wa.gov.au); [Wendy.Duncan@mp.wa.gov.au](mailto:Wendy.Duncan@mp.wa.gov.au); [Matt.Benson@mp.wa.gov.au](mailto:Matt.Benson@mp.wa.gov.au);  
[Jim.Chown@mp.wa.gov.au](mailto:Jim.Chown@mp.wa.gov.au); [Mia.Davies@mp.wa.gov.au](mailto:Mia.Davies@mp.wa.gov.au); [Brian.Ellis@mp.wa.gov.au](mailto:Brian.Ellis@mp.wa.gov.au); [Philip.Gardiner@mp.wa.gov.au](mailto:Philip.Gardiner@mp.wa.gov.au);  
[Max.Trenorden@mp.wa.gov.au](mailto:Max.Trenorden@mp.wa.gov.au)

Subject: Albany - Great Southern - O'Connor - WA

The Hon. Eric Ripper MLA – Parliamentary Leader of the Opposition  
 The Hon. Giz Watson MLC – Parliamentary Leader of the WA Greens  
 The Hon. Peter Watson MLA – Member for Albany  
 The Hon. Ken Travers MLC – Shadow Minister for Transport

The Hon. Barry House MLC – President of Legislative Council; Member South-West Region  
 The Hon. Nigel Hallett MLC – Member for South-West Region  
 The Hon. Colin Holt MLC – Member for South-West Region  
 The Hon. Dr. Sally Talbot MLC – Member for South-West Region  
 The Hon. Adele Farina MLC – Member for South-West Region

The Hon. Ken Baston MLC – Member for Mining & Pastoral Region  
 The Hon. Helen Bullock MLC – Member for Mining & Pastoral Region  
 The Hon. Jon Ford MLC – Member for Mining & Pastoral Region  
 The Hon. Robin Chapple MLC – Member for Mining & Pastoral Region  
 The Hon. Wendy Duncan MLC – Member for Mining & Pastoral Region

The Hon. Matt Benson MLC – Deputy Pres Legislative Council; Member Agricultural Region  
 The Hon. Jim Chown MLC – Member for Agricultural Region  
 The Hon. Mia Davies MLC – Member for Agricultural Region  
 The Hon. Brian Ellis MLC – Member for Agricultural Region  
 The Hon. Philip Gardiner MLC – Member for Agricultural Region  
 The Hon. Max Trenorden MLC – Member for Agricultural Region

FYI – With our compliments – the Minister for Transport's response to our question :

Has the Minister for Transport or the Department of Transport entered into agreement with Grange Resources Pty Ltd for the purposes of conveying mine slurry via an easement within crown lands to the Port of Albany?

Neil R. Smithson  
 Independent Candidate for O'Connor 2010

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Written & Authorised : Neil Smithson, 364 Middleton Road, Albany WA 6330

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From: Smithson [mailto:[smithson@smithsonplanning.com.au](mailto:smithson@smithsonplanning.com.au)]

Sent: Thursday, 19 August 2010 9:56 AM

To: [Minister.O'Brien@dpc.wa.gov.au](mailto:Minister.O'Brien@dpc.wa.gov.au)

**Cc:** [Premier.Barnett@dpc.wa.gov.au](mailto:Premier.Barnett@dpc.wa.gov.au); [Minister.Hames@dpc.wa.gov.au](mailto:Minister.Hames@dpc.wa.gov.au); [Minister.Moore@dpc.wa.gov.au](mailto:Minister.Moore@dpc.wa.gov.au); [Minister.Grylls@dpc.wa.gov.au](mailto:Minister.Grylls@dpc.wa.gov.au); [Minister.Constable@dpc.wa.gov.au](mailto:Minister.Constable@dpc.wa.gov.au); [Minister.Johnson@dpc.wa.gov.au](mailto:Minister.Johnson@dpc.wa.gov.au); [Minister.Waldron@dpc.wa.gov.au](mailto:Minister.Waldron@dpc.wa.gov.au); [Minister.Day@dpc.wa.gov.au](mailto:Minister.Day@dpc.wa.gov.au); [Minister.Collier@dpc.wa.gov.au](mailto:Minister.Collier@dpc.wa.gov.au); [Minister.Porter@dpc.wa.gov.au](mailto:Minister.Porter@dpc.wa.gov.au); [Minister.McSweeney@dpc.wa.gov.au](mailto:Minister.McSweeney@dpc.wa.gov.au); [Minister.Jacobs@dpc.wa.gov.au](mailto:Minister.Jacobs@dpc.wa.gov.au); [Minister.Castrilli@dpc.wa.gov.au](mailto:Minister.Castrilli@dpc.wa.gov.au); [Minister.Redman@dpc.wa.gov.au](mailto:Minister.Redman@dpc.wa.gov.au); [Minister.Faragher@dpc.wa.gov.au](mailto:Minister.Faragher@dpc.wa.gov.au); [Minister.Marmion@dpc.wa.gov.au](mailto:Minister.Marmion@dpc.wa.gov.au)

**Bcc:** [Simon.Obrien@mp.wa.gov.au](mailto:Simon.Obrien@mp.wa.gov.au); [Clare.Hood@mp.wa.gov.au](mailto:Clare.Hood@mp.wa.gov.au); [Colin.Barnett@mp.wa.gov.au](mailto:Colin.Barnett@mp.wa.gov.au); [Kim.Hames@mp.wa.gov.au](mailto:Kim.Hames@mp.wa.gov.au); [Norman.Moore@mp.wa.gov.au](mailto:Norman.Moore@mp.wa.gov.au); [Brendon.Grylls@mp.wa.gov.au](mailto:Brendon.Grylls@mp.wa.gov.au); [Elizabeth.Constable@mp.wa.gov.au](mailto:Elizabeth.Constable@mp.wa.gov.au); [Rob.Johnson@mp.wa.gov.au](mailto:Rob.Johnson@mp.wa.gov.au); [Terry.Waldron@mp.wa.gov.au](mailto:Terry.Waldron@mp.wa.gov.au); [John.Day@mp.wa.gov.au](mailto:John.Day@mp.wa.gov.au); [Peter.Collier@mp.wa.gov.au](mailto:Peter.Collier@mp.wa.gov.au); [Christian.Porter@mp.wa.gov.au](mailto:Christian.Porter@mp.wa.gov.au); [Robyn.McSweeney@mp.wa.gov.au](mailto:Robyn.McSweeney@mp.wa.gov.au); [Graham.Jacobs@mp.wa.gov.au](mailto:Graham.Jacobs@mp.wa.gov.au); [John.Castrilli@mp.wa.gov.au](mailto:John.Castrilli@mp.wa.gov.au); [Terry.Redman@mp.wa.gov.au](mailto:Terry.Redman@mp.wa.gov.au); [Donna.Faragher@mp.wa.gov.au](mailto:Donna.Faragher@mp.wa.gov.au); [Bill.Marmion@mp.wa.gov.au](mailto:Bill.Marmion@mp.wa.gov.au)

**Subject:** Albany - Great Southern - O'Connor - WA

The Hon. Simon O'Brien MLC  
Minister for Transport  
State Government of Western Australia

Good morning Simon – and thank you for your letter today on the Grange Slurry Pipeline.

I note that your discussion does not refer to Albany's ring road – existing or proposed, although in-principle support might be interpreted to cover that variable.

All of Albany knows that I am the only federal candidate for O'Connor with a real solution for Albany & the Great Southern.

From my speech to the Blackwood Zone WAFF last Monday :

It was the Federal Coalition that established and oversaw the Agribusiness MIS taxation scheme. It was Federal Labor that has subsequently established Infrastructure Australia, Regional Development Australia and now the National Anzac Centenary Commission. No-one spends \$40 million dollars over 4 years on a planning & environmental assessment process that ends in a fatally flawed project. Grange Resources is going to want a solution for its \$1.7b Southdown iron ore project at Wellstead, and Albany wants the employment & investment.

If the Hon. Simon O'Brien MLC – WA's Minister for Transport permits Grange to access the road reserves of the Albany ring road and Princess Royal Drive for its slurry pipe, then that will limit the future expansion capacity of any road or rail improvement for Albany port access – not to dismiss the interim construction management program and its impact on freight transport.

Main Roads and the Australian Rail Group have said exactly that, and if you are familiar with the Old Woolstores site, then I don't support pushing that onus onto private landowners who have different aspirations for the future of their waterfront property. If the Minister doesn't give Grange Resources access, and the various Waterfront projects do proceed, as they eventually will – well, as a qualified planner, I am particularly interested in each of the other O'Connor candidates' solution for this problem – they will need a solution if elected.

The Rainbow 2000<sup>®</sup> Project was written in 1997, and in essence, the City of Albany, the Great Southern Development Commission, the State and Federal Governments on both sides have all declined on multiple occasions over 13 years to even be briefed. This is a project that will create 30,000 jobs and lead to billions in investment through superannuation funds and infrastructure partnerships – it is everything all major parties espouse should be happening – the problem is that it just wasn't their idea (intellectual property).

Over the past decade, the community of Albany has effectively by-passed opportunities to relocate the Port of Albany during the \$120m Grain Upgrade, the \$150m introduction of the Plantation Timber industry, and now the would be \$1.7b Iron Ore industry – all as a function of the fragmentation of state governance, if not the direct intervention of State politics and commercial monopoly.

In this time, there has been significant growth in cruise shipping, and had the Port of Albany expanded and relocated to an area with ten times the current land backed area (and permanent ring road access including rail), it would have freed up the current port area for tourism and property development just like Bunbury & Geraldton. In fact, Rainbow

2000<sup>®</sup> was documented before Oakajee, and we all know where Geraldton and the Mid-West are heading with future expansion.

There are also significant future sea port opportunities associated with containerisation, fisheries, oil & gas, fuel bunkering, livestock export and military vessel support, as well as airport expansion to international status for tourism, hospitality and freight logistics supporting specialist agricultural export activities, education, commerce, retail, manufacturing, etc. I have been studying this for thirteen years now, and port relocation is the only solution – several people have already said exactly that, including the Federal Member for O'Connor.

In essence now, John Day (Planning) and Donna Faragher (Environment) have both done a Pontius Pilate on the Grange Resources Project, and passed the buck to Simon O'Brien (Transport) who will have to take responsibility for either refusing Grange access to the waterfront road / rail reserves, or create his own new little 'Roe 8' legacy just for Albany.

Imagine being the State Government and the Minister that deliberately chose to sacrifice Albany's Waterfront Precincts, the Entertainment Centre, Central Business District, the Port of Albany, Albany Anzac 2014-18 and the Albany Bicentennial 2026-27. Of course, what you are actually doing is accepting the risk management, and compromising the future development of the region (particularly in the context of peak oil).

The cheapest version for Albany and the Great Southern is if I am the Federal Member for O'Connor – but otherwise I look forward to working with whoever is the next Federal Member for O'Connor, and they are going to have to put some serious runs on the board if they want to see a State Government of their persuasion returned in 2013 and then succeed themselves in 2014. There isn't much point in doing it all for one-term in parliament.

This is Albany's time, and they know it – we are also quite happy to share the opportunity with Recherche Goldfields. There is strength in numbers – and good ideas will gravitate to Batavia, Gascoyne, Pilbara & Kimberley.

That is six new Premiers around the table at COAG, and potentially six new Senators for our half of Australia – and yes, Perth will grow too.

Again, thank you for your reply, and cheers for now.

Neil R. Smithson  
Independent Candidate for O'Connor 2010

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Written & Authorised : Neil Smithson, 364 Middleton Road, Albany WA 6330

---

**From:** Smithson [mailto:[smithson@smithsonplanning.com.au](mailto:smithson@smithsonplanning.com.au)]  
**Sent:** Thursday, 27 May 2010 10:23 AM  
**To:** [jordan.kim@abc.net.au](mailto:jordan.kim@abc.net.au); [hutchison.geoff@abc.net.au](mailto:hutchison.geoff@abc.net.au); [cameron.eoin@abc.net.au](mailto:cameron.eoin@abc.net.au); [woolf.russell@abc.net.au](mailto:woolf.russell@abc.net.au)  
**Cc:** [norman.jane@abc.net.au](mailto:norman.jane@abc.net.au); [smart.craig@abc.net.au](mailto:smart.craig@abc.net.au); [carvalho.karina@abc.net.au](mailto:carvalho.karina@abc.net.au); [4corners@your.abc.net.au](mailto:4corners@your.abc.net.au); [breakfast@your.abc.net.au](mailto:breakfast@your.abc.net.au)  
**Subject:** FW: Landline & O'Connor MHR

Mr Kim Jordan

Mr Geoff Hutchison  
 Mr Eoin Cameron  
 Mr Russell Woolf  
 Ms Jane Norman  
 Mr Craig Smart  
 Ms Karina Carvalho  
 ABC Western Australia

With our compliments – I could assume that Sydney might send this to Perth.

Between Kevin Rudd's big new mining tax, the City of Albany's opposition to dredge spoil dumping in King George Sound, the Albany Anzac Peace Park 2014-18 celebrations, LandCorp's Waterfront Marina & Hotel, the Albany Entertainment Centre, and now the Woolstores Waterfront Project, one could suggest that (i) the Grange Iron Ore Project is definitely in jeopardy, and (ii) the Port of Albany has its back to the wall.

---

**From:** ABC Corporate\_Affairs6 [mailto: [Corporate\\_Affairs6.ABC@abc.net.au](mailto:Corporate_Affairs6.ABC@abc.net.au)]  
**Sent:** Monday, 24 May 2010 7:27 AM  
**To:** 'Smithson'  
**Subject:** RE: Landline & O'Connor MHR

Dear Mr Smithson,

Thank you for your feedback and suggestions, which I will pass on to News management.

Yours sincerely,

Kirstin McLiesh  
 Head, Audience and Consumer Affairs

---

**From:** Smithson [mailto: [smithson@smithsonplanning.com.au](mailto:smithson@smithsonplanning.com.au)]  
**Sent:** Sunday, 23 May 2010 3:33 PM  
**To:** ABC Corporate\_Affairs6  
**Cc:** Jane Norman; Sean Murphy; Mark Scott; ABC Board  
**Subject:** Landline & O'Connor MHR

Ms Kirstin McLiesh  
 Head, Audience & Consumer Affairs  
 ABC Corporate  
 Australian Broadcasting Corporation

An interesting story on the federal seat of O'Connor (Landline 23 May 2010), albeit told from a rural perspective.

What about asking the more hard-hitting questions, like :

1. Support for Uranium Mining & Nuclear Power
2. Port Relocation in Albany and Esperance
3. The impact on Rural and Regional centres arising from Peak Oil & Gas
4. Rural freight network investment – road, rail, sea and air
5. Indigenous development
6. Health services
7. Population growth, immigration, training and regional development
8. Anzac 2014-18 National Celebrations
9. Bremer Basin Oil & Gas Exploration
10. Water harvesting & desalination
11. Secession from the State of Western Australia or with the State of Western Australia.



**From:** Smithson [mailto:smithson@smithsonplanning.com.au]

**Sent:** Sunday, 2 May 2010 12:36 PM

**To:** [editor@theaustralian.com.au](mailto:editor@theaustralian.com.au); [mitchellc@theaustralian.com.au](mailto:mitchellc@theaustralian.com.au); [kellyp@theaustralian.com.au](mailto:kellyp@theaustralian.com.au); [duriej@theaustralian.com.au](mailto:duriej@theaustralian.com.au); [stutchburym@theaustralian.com.au](mailto:stutchburym@theaustralian.com.au); [megalogenisg@theaustralian.com.au](mailto:megalogenisg@theaustralian.com.au); [shanahand@theaustralian.com.au](mailto:shanahand@theaustralian.com.au); [hewettj@theaustralian.com.au](mailto:hewettj@theaustralian.com.au); [sheridang@theaustralian.com.au](mailto:sheridang@theaustralian.com.au)  
**Cc:** [rothwelln@theaustralian.com.au](mailto:rothwelln@theaustralian.com.au); [barrasst@theaustralian.com.au](mailto:barrasst@theaustralian.com.au); [taylorp@theaustralian.com.au](mailto:taylorp@theaustralian.com.au); [McCrannT@heraldsun.com.au](mailto:McCrannT@heraldsun.com.au); [BoltA@heraldsun.com.au](mailto:BoltA@heraldsun.com.au)

**Subject:** Political Reform in Australia

Mr Chris Mitchell – Editor-in-Chief  
 Mr Paul Kelly – Editor-at-Large  
 Mr John Durie – Finance Editor  
 Mr Michael Stutchbury – Economics Editor  
 Mr George Megalogenis – Analysis  
 Mr Dennis Shanahan – Political Editor  
 Ms Jennifer Hewett – National Affairs Correspondent  
 Mr Greg Sheridan – Foreign Editor  
 Mr Nicolas Rothwell – Editor, Northern Territory  
 Mr Tony Barrass – Editor, Western Australia  
 Mr Paige Taylor – Journalist, WA  
 The Australian

Mr Terry McCrann – The Herald Sun  
 Mr Andrew Bolt – The Herald Sun

With our compliments you may care to review our website page and the discussion paper  
[Albany & the Corruption Crime Commission WA](#)

**From:** Smithson [mailto:smithson@smithsonplanning.com.au]

**Sent:** Thursday, 29 April 2010 3:01 PM

**To:** [janeta@bigpond.net.au](mailto:janeta@bigpond.net.au)

**Subject:** Political Reform in Australia

Ms Janet Albrechtsen  
 Contributing Editor  
 The Australian



Good afternoon –

Let me say I enjoyed your article in The Australian of Wednesday 28 April 2010 (Page 12) – Proportional vote a disaster.

It would appear that the profile of Regional Development (expressed as population or immigration), is growing in Australia and I thought you may be interested in the most recent entries to our various discussion papers :

- ❖ [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

*Tax carrot urged to revive regions and save cities* : “Tax incentives to turn regional centres into new commerce hubs should be introduced to help ease the congestion choking major cities. The recommendation came from the National Farmers Federation, which said that developing population and tax policies to re-energise regional Australia was critical if the federal government hoped to tackle urban issues such as housing affordability and stretched services. We’re a nation of coast-huggers, said NFF president David Crombie. Unless we ... entice businesses and people to major regional cities as new commerce hubs, come 2050 36 million people will choke our cities to a dysfunctional standstill. Governments can’t make people move to regional areas, but by creating the case for businesses to start up or relocate operations off the back of innovative and worthwhile tax advantages, people will follow the employment opportunities for themselves and their families. The population projections have 14 million extra souls by 2050, and it beggars belief we aren’t thinking more positively about the role regional Australia can play, Mr Crombie said. We need a national plan for regionalisation.”

*David Crombie, President, National Farmers Federation Extract : The Australian (Page 2), 31 Mar 2010*

*If you want more people we have to plan better* : “Recent contention about the optimum population for Australia, sparked by the release of the Intergenerational Report, is nothing new. We’ve been debating this since Federation. Long-term planning for the development of regions, towns and cities, catchments and natural resources will allow us to protect the environment while addressing the needs of a larger population. On one would deny there are challenges in a larger population. We are convinced, however, that managed growth is in Australians’ best interests and is necessary and achievable. The first step is for the federal government to take a leadership role and seek agreement with state and local governments on a national growth policy. The next step is for them to integrate planning of urban centres and infrastructure, including roads, public transport, water and electricity supply, as well as schools and hospitals. We must make better use of the infrastructure we have and speed up reforms already under way for our freight, road, water telecommunications and electricity sectors.”

*Graham Bradley, President, Business Council of Australia Extract : The Australian (Page 14), 31 Mar 2010*

Government (International, Federal, State, Regional & Local) are all well aware of our debate framework – the Rainbow 2000<sup>®</sup> Project – and you may care to review our most recent submission to [Infrastructure Australia 2010](#).

There is a particularly interesting Special Electors Meeting of the City of Albany (convened by the ratepayers under the legislation) scheduled for Thursday 13 May 2010 at 18.00 hours in Council Chambers to discuss Councillors, Governance, Staff and Planning / Development issues in the context that :

1. the Hon. John Castrilli MLA – State Minister for Local Government is being strongly urged to dismiss the Council of the City of Albany, and

2. the Hon. John Day MLA – State Minister for Planning is being urged to transfer planning powers to Regional Development Assessment Panels.

I trust this information is useful, and if you would care for a briefing on the Rainbow 2000<sup>®</sup> Project, please call.

**From:** Smithson [mailto:smithson@smithsonplanning.com.au]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 9 February 2010 1:51 PM  
**To:** [Ben.Spencer@AlbanyAdvertiser.com](mailto:Ben.Spencer@AlbanyAdvertiser.com)  
**Cc:** [Nick.Sas@AlbanyAdvertiser.com](mailto:Nick.Sas@AlbanyAdvertiser.com)  
**Subject:** FW: Albany Ring Road

Mr Ben Spencer  
 Editor  
 The Albany Advertiser

Welcome to Albany – and watch out for those ‘asses’ and ‘groins’!

Good coverage in today's Albany Advertiser (Page 1) – Traffic standstill, but I suspect that \$100m won't provide anywhere near the desired future solution.

**Traffic standstill**  
 City says \$100m needed to prevent roundabout chaos in the coming years

**NICK SAS** AA 9-2-2010 p1

MOTORISTS could be forced to wait 15 minutes to pass through Albany's main roundabout in the coming years unless a proposed \$100 million ring road is completed.

City of Albany deputy mayor Dennis Wellington said the roundabout had been highlighted as a major concern after discussions

porting woodchips and grain through the Chester Pass Road, Albany Highway and South Coast Highway roundabout had made the intersection Albany's accident hotspot over the past decade.

He said the roundabout, which was used by 35,000 cars a day, needed an alternate route as soon as possible.

While there had been a slight

hard to stop coming up to the roundabout and already when you get to the height of the wheat season it's pretty tough and dangerous to get through," he said.

"There are a lot of accidents there and I think the ring road should be a high priority. It's definitely something we need to get through."

State Transport Minister Simon

Chester Pass Road, proposed under the State Government's Strategic Grain Network Committee review, was a priority.

"I'm down here to take a drive down Chester Pass Road and see the state of it myself and to assess the issues in Albany," he said.

"And we may establish that the ring road will be the first part of our upgrade to make the roads

getting things done."

Main Roads Great Southern regional manager Andrew Duffield said the 15 minute wait was an estimate, but admitted an alternative heavy vehicle route was required within the next 15 years.

"We have a computer model which has been developed over the past 18 months with the City of Albany to

And some of my favourite comments to date :

**To the Hon. Alannah MacTiernan MLA – Minister for Planning & Infrastructure :** "The APULG believes that if there is to be additional rail traffic into the City of Albany, there will need to be a substantial upgrade of the only railway line available to industry within the Great Southern, particularly that section of the line between Mirrambeena and the Port. The area of rail that travels alongside Princess Royal Drive would almost certainly have to be developed into a two-line corridor."

**Ian Peacock, Chairman, Albany Port User Liaison Group Letter : 19 Mar 2002**

**Waterfront plans out :** "With residential development on two sides of the Port and accommodation on the third, it was only a matter of time before the Port was rendered unviable. Plans for the waterfront development should be displayed in every town in the region which relied on the Port to ensure everyone whose living depended on the Port had the opportunity to comment."

**Ian Peacock, Chairman APULG Extract : Albany Advertiser (Page 3), 29 Apr 2004**

**Concern about port restrictions :** "Under the (Waterfront) plan the amount of short-term accommodation effectively doubled and the development shifted closer to the port, intensifying fears use of the port would be restricted. The City should have retained the original concept, rather than accept designs unveiled by Planning Minister Alannah MacTiernan. If the development went ahead, the future of the port could not be safeguarded and condemned what he said was a lack of industry consultation."

**Ian Peacock, Chairman APULG Extract : Albany Advertiser (Page 5), 18 Nov 2004**

**Tuckey pushes new port – but Port Authority sees no viable sites near Albany :** "Heavy freight road transport access, space for future development, and pollution would put Albany Port on a path to certain conflict with the community. A new deep water port is needed in Albany. It is not a matter of how much it will cost, but where. Once a port facility gets serious, as is proposed here, it won't be able to live in its present position with a city like Albany."



*The Hon. Wilson Tuckey MHR, Member for O'Connor Extract : AGS Weekender (Page 1), 07 Jul 2005*

"The Albany Waterfront Development and the Albany Entertainment Centre constitute an unacceptable future threat to the continuity of port access."

*Ian Peacock, Past Chairman APULG Statement : Albany Waterfront Action Group PCYC, 28 Oct 2006*

**Port in conflict :** "The locality of the Albany Entertainment Centre would interfere with the port (*access*). I believe there will be a conflict of interest. The time for waterfront development was when the port was being relocated."

*The Hon. Wilson Tuckey MHR, Member for O'Connor Extract : Albany Advertiser (Page 5), 21 Nov 2006*

**Case for Cockburn port :** "Fremantle Mayor Peter Tagliaferri's appeal to prevent the export of sealed containers of lead concentrate from the Port of Fremantle proves how foolish was his criticism of recent proposals to relocate that port's ship loading activities to James Point in Cockburn Sound. Had the State Planning & Transport Minister (*Alannah MacTiernan*) kept faith with a previous parliamentary agreement for a private port at this locality, the problem facing Mr Tagliaferri's residential constituents would not exist because the facility would be completed and be the logical place for such exports?"

"He (*the Mayor of the City of Fremantle*) must recognise that a port is a port and its associated activities are not compatible with residential and urban development, which is surely Fremantle's future. The State Government, however, continues to retain such arrangements and in fact promote this conflict of interest, as the Mayors of Geraldton and Albany will confirm. The people in and around Fremantle are entitled to the peace and security that would arise from the port's industrial relocation and the mayor should put them first."

*Hon. Wilson Tuckey MHR, Member for O'Connor, WA Article : West Australian (Page 22), 21 Jan 2008*

**We won't use it**  
AA 4-4-2006 P1

**Industry players reject Albany Ring Road**

By YASMINE PHILLIPS

UNLESS the Albany Ring Road is made a designated heavy haulage route, key players in the Great Southern agricultural industry say they won't be using it.

After criticising the ring road at a meeting with Timber 2020 last week, concerned parties are calling for an independent economic study to weigh up the alternatives.

— so before we start racing in and spending \$70-80 million we need to have a closer look," he said.

"The point is that we don't actually know how much it is — it could be less or more. Win, lose or draw — at least we will have some accurate figures to go by."

And while Mr Peacock said he supported Stage One wholeheartedly, Timbercorp forestry general manager Tim Browning said he was opposed to the whole project.

"We have huge problems with all of the stages and we've asked those

"Stage One is going in a completely different direction to where the wood needs to go — the port — and there is a perfectly good road there already in Chester Pass Road.

"It's outrageous that this is allowed to continue — local roads can't get 25 cents for upgrades and local timber companies have to pay for the roads to be repaired, upgraded and maintained to get wood transported."

Divided in their support, both players agreed the major trouble spot was the big roundabout.

crossing. "I met with key people in the timber industry this morning and they don't want to see Stages 2 and 3 of the ring road go ahead — if we can use Chester Pass Road we won't use the ring road so why build it?" he said.

Mr Browning agreed, saying the only trucks which would be seen on the ring road would belong to Oji.

While ideas such as the 'smart light' were thrown around, Mr Peacock said no other alternatives had been seriously investigated.

relies on exports — the wealth of Albany is not coming from within Albany — the truth is every time we load on \$1 domestically farmers suffer because we can't jack our prices up."

International logistics and shipping adviser Cr Bob Emery said members of each affected sector had their own interests at heart.

"The City of Albany needs a ring road but various industries have conflicting economic arguments," he said.

I wonder if the industry group's feelings have changed on the matter? After all, it's their port.

**From:** Smithson [mailto:smithson@smithsonplanning.com.au]

**Sent:** Wednesday, 3 February 2010 3:34 PM

**To:** [Vivienne.Ryan@wanews.com.au](mailto:Vivienne.Ryan@wanews.com.au); [Cathy.Saunders@wanews.com.au](mailto:Cathy.Saunders@wanews.com.au)

**Subject:** Rainbow 2000 - a Regional Planning Strategy for Albany & the Great Southern, Western Australia

Ms Vivienne Ryan – Journalist

Ms Cathy Saunders – Property Editor

The West Australian

Another good contribution – but where are the solutions?

10 • WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2010

THE WEST AUSTRALIAN

# Property

The West Australian

REVIVAL INDUSTRIAL MARKET SHOWS SIGNS P 52

edited by GATHY SAUNDERS

## Saraceni urges planning reform

VIVIANE RYAN

WA's planning and development reforms need more attention and urgency, according to industry lobby groups and developers, with one pointing towards the potential "messy problem" of land undersupply.

Speaking at an Australia Property Institute forum last week, prominent developer Luke Saraceni called for more to be done on planning reforms, warning that a shortage of land risked stalling development.

"I think we have a massive problem

if they thought we had camp-outs in the last boom, the camp-outs we will see in the next boom will be bigger than the tent cities you see in Brazil," he said. "It is a bit of an exaggeration, but there you are."

The Barnett Government launched a planning reform agenda last year, prompted by a Council of Australian Governments push to improve planning nationwide.

The reforms seek to streamline and speed up building approvals in WA. In November, Planning Minister John Day introduced a Bill to modify the

However, the Planning Institute of Australia WA's divisional president, Paul Kotsoglou, said the planning reform was slow.

"I have some concerns that things need to move along in a timely manner and they haven't been going at the pace they need to," Mr Kotsoglou said. "The system is under incredible stress and not able to produce the planning determinations, be they approvals or refusals, in a timely manner."

He called for a "decided approvals process" where applications were automatically given a green light from

reference group advising on the overload of the planning systems.

But residential land development was not the only sector being stifled by the lack of planning, according to Australian Property Institute president Ross Hughes.

He said industrial land supply should be constantly on the radar for the State Government and has called for a smarter plan for its development.

"It really is a significant issue . . . it is chronic . . . particularly with things like Gorgon we need a service industry to service them," Mr Hughes said.

"We are going to have a supply-demand imbalance in any event but it is a matter of what we can do in the short to medium term to address it and at the same time doing the long term planning."

The Industrial Land Strategy released last year by the State Government identified priority areas for industrial development and was handed as a 20-year vision.

The blueprint for the plan gives broad guidelines to improve industrial land supply and is open for public comment until March 12.

Mr Hughes said some areas listed

The State Government of Western Australia through the actions of people like the Hon. Alannah MacTiernan MLA as Minister for Planning & Infrastructure is veritably culpable for the past decade.

There are several discussion papers attached to the Rainbow 2000<sup>©</sup> Project – [WA Planning Instruments](#) is one of them.

The Governor of Western Australia must have called in a lot of favours so far! Or is Australian media just another part of the problem.

**From:** Smithson [mailto:smithson@smithsonplanning.com.au]  
**Sent:** Monday, 1 February 2010 10:08 AM  
**To:** [towien@sundaytimes.newsltd.com.au](mailto:towien@sundaytimes.newsltd.com.au)  
**Cc:** [weirs@sundaytimes.newsltd.com.au](mailto:weirs@sundaytimes.newsltd.com.au)  
**Subject:** FW: APH SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE : FUEL & ENERGY

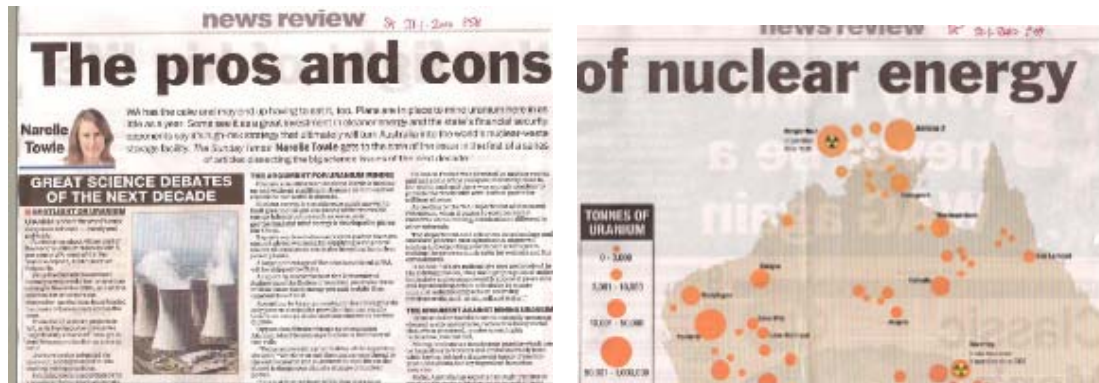
Ms Narelle Towie  
 Journalist  
 Sunday Times Newspaper  
 Perth, Western Australia

An interesting piece in the Sunday Times of 31 January 2010 (Pages 58 & 59) – The pros and cons of nuclear energy.

A rather shallow analysis I thought – perhaps you can remind Professor David Harries of Murdoch University that the Perth region is already unsustainable in terms of water supply, electricity generation and gas supply.

The full ramifications of peak oil are far from obvious at this time, but it is abundantly clear that the rest of the developed world is investing heavily in gas as a transitional substitute and nuclear power, along with comparatively less action on biofuels and alternative renewables.

The State Government of Western Australia through the actions of people like the Hon. Alannah MacTiernan MLA as Minister for Planning & Infrastructure is veritably culpable for the past decade.



**From:** Smithson [mailto:smithson@smithsonplanning.com.au]

**Sent:** Tuesday, 5 January 2010 9:45 AM

**To:** [4corners@your.abc.net.au](mailto:4corners@your.abc.net.au)

**Subject:** FW: Rainbow 2000 - a Regional Planning Strategy for Albany & the Great Southern, Western Australia

Program Assistant

4 Corners

ABC Television

Thank you for your reply email received this morning.

If you have no luck getting the documentation from *The West Australian*, please call.

**From:** Smithson [mailto:smithson@smithsonplanning.com.au]

**Sent:** Saturday, 2 January 2010 1:15 PM

**To:** [lunns@theaustralian.com.au](mailto:lunns@theaustralian.com.au); [mitchellc@theaustralian.com.au](mailto:mitchellc@theaustralian.com.au); [whittakerp@theaustralian.com.au](mailto:whittakerp@theaustralian.com.au)

**Cc:** [editor@theaustralian.com.au](mailto:editor@theaustralian.com.au); [shanahand@theaustralian.com.au](mailto:shanahand@theaustralian.com.au); [hewettj@theaustralian.com.au](mailto:hewettj@theaustralian.com.au);

[megalogenisg@theaustralian.com.au](mailto:megalogenisg@theaustralian.com.au); [sheridang@theaustralian.com.au](mailto:sheridang@theaustralian.com.au); [duriej@theaustralian.com.au](mailto:duriej@theaustralian.com.au);

[feedback@theaustralian.com.au](mailto:feedback@theaustralian.com.au)

**Subject:** Rainbow 2000 - a Regional Planning Strategy for Albany & the Great Southern, Western Australia

Mr Stephen Lunn

Social Affairs Writer

The Australian

The Population Challenge – a special series.

Congratulations on your article in the Australian of Wednesday 30 December 2009 (Page 4) – Cities can't handle growth targets.

Do you want to write the real story on how governance, politics, media and the public service have conspired to produce this outcome?





Read on.

**From:** ABC Corporate\_Affairs6 [mailto:Corporate\_Affairs6.ABC@abc.net.au]  
**Sent:** Friday, 18 December 2009 3:18 PM  
**To:** 'Smithson'  
**Subject:** RE: Rainbow 2000 - a Regional Planning Strategy for Albany & the Great Southern, Western Australia

Dear Mr Smithson,

I acknowledge receipt of your email.

**From:** Smithson [mailto:smithson@smithsonplanning.com.au]  
**Sent:** Sunday, 20 December 2009 3:24 PM  
**To:** [kai.lanssen@sbs.com.au](mailto:kai.lanssen@sbs.com.au)  
**Subject:** Rainbow 2000 - a Regional Planning Strategy for Albany & the Great Southern, Western Australia

Mr George Negus  
 SBS Television Australia Dateline – this makes for a great story I think.

**From:** Smithson [mailto:smithson@smithsonplanning.com.au]  
**Sent:** Friday, 18 December 2009 5:17 PM  
**To:** [NEW-news@networkten.com.au](mailto:NEW-news@networkten.com.au)  
**Subject:** Rainbow 2000 - a Regional Planning Strategy for Albany & the Great Southern, Western Australia

Ten Network News Australia – makes for a great story I think.

**From:** Smithson [mailto:smithson@smithsonplanning.com.au]  
**Sent:** Friday, 18 December 2009 5:17 PM  
**To:** [60minutes@nine.com.au](mailto:60minutes@nine.com.au)  
**Subject:** Rainbow 2000 - a Regional Planning Strategy for Albany & the Great Southern, Western Australia

60 Minutes Australia – makes for a great story I think.

**From:** Smithson [mailto:smithson@smithsonplanning.com.au]  
**Sent:** Thursday, 17 December 2009 6:00 PM  
**To:** Geoff Hutchison; Jane Norman  
**Cc:** WA Mornings; ABC Corporate\_Affairs6  
**Subject:** Rainbow 2000 - a Regional Planning Strategy for Albany & the Great Southern, Western Australia

Mr Geoff Hutchison  
 Ms Jane Norman  
 Ms Kirtsin McLiesh, ABC Corporate Affairs

Perhaps you would care to hazard a guess as to why Australian newspapers have not followed up on these matters.

---

**From:** Smithson [mailto:smithson@smithsonplanning.com.au]

**Sent:** Friday, 11 December 2009 3:11 PM

**To:** [editor@theaustralian.com.au](mailto:editor@theaustralian.com.au)

**Cc:** [barrasst@theaustralian.com.au](mailto:barrasst@theaustralian.com.au); [taylorp@theaustralian.com.au](mailto:taylorp@theaustralian.com.au); [taylorl@theaustralian.com.au](mailto:taylorl@theaustralian.com.au)

**Subject:** Rainbow 2000 - a Regional Planning Strategy for Albany & the Great Southern, Western Australia

Mr Paul Kelly – Editor

Mr Tony Barrass – Editor WA

Ms Paige Taylor – Journalist

Ms Lenore Taylor – Journalist

The Australian Newspaper

Perhaps you would care to hazard a guess as to why the WA newspapers have not followed up on these matters.

---

**From:** Smithson [mailto:smithson@smithsonplanning.com.au]

**Sent:** Tuesday, 8 December 2009 4:13 PM

**To:** [mark.beyer@wabusinessnews.com.au](mailto:mark.beyer@wabusinessnews.com.au); [mark.pownall@wabusinessnews.com.au](mailto:mark.pownall@wabusinessnews.com.au)

**Subject:** FW: Rainbow 2000 - a Regional Planning Strategy for Albany & the Great Southern, Western Australia

Mr Mark Beyer

Mr Mark Pownall

WA Business News

With our compliments.

---

**From:** Smithson [mailto:smithson@smithsonplanning.com.au]

**Sent:** Monday, 7 December 2009 12:48 PM

**To:** [weirs@sundaytimes.newsltd.com.au](mailto:weirs@sundaytimes.newsltd.com.au)

**Cc:** [cannl@sundaytimes.newsltd.com.au](mailto:cannl@sundaytimes.newsltd.com.au); [towien@sundaytimes.newsltd.com.au](mailto:towien@sundaytimes.newsltd.com.au);

[milneg@sundaytimes.newsltd.com.au](mailto:milneg@sundaytimes.newsltd.com.au)

**Subject:** Rainbow 2000 - a Regional Planning Strategy for Albany & the Great Southern, Western Australia

Mr Sam Weir – Editor

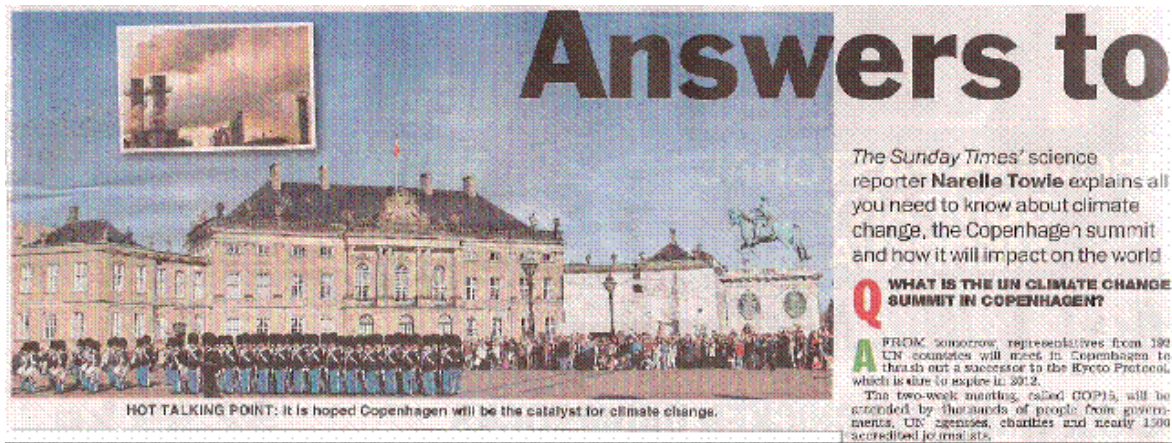
Ms Linda Cann – Journalist

Ms Narelle Towie – Journalist

The Sunday Times

An outstanding contribution to the Global Warming debate – Sunday Times 06 Dec 2009 p82 :  
Answers to burning questions – although a bit short on the answers.





A thoughtful evaluation of why Perth (and WA) struggle to move forward – Sunday Times 06 Dec 2009 p78 : Pain and progress – but again few answers.



There are several discussion papers available from our website that should be of interest [www.smithsonplanning.com.au](http://www.smithsonplanning.com.au) , like :

- ❖ Peak Oil Gas & Nuclear Power
- ❖ Global Warming & Sea Level Change
- ❖ R2000 Major Statements
- ❖ Manypeaks Transitional Governance
- ❖ Albany ANZEF 2014-18.

**From:** Neil Smithson [mailto:neil.smithson@smithsonplanning.com.au]

**Sent:** Tuesday, 1 December 2009 7:03 AM

**To:** [Brett.McCarthy@wanews.com.au](mailto:Brett.McCarthy@wanews.com.au)

**Subject:** Rainbow 2000 - a Regional Planning Strategy for Albany & the Great Southern

Mr Brett McCarthy

Editor  
The West Australian

Good morning Brett

Thank you for an interesting lunch yesterday with the new US Ambassador to Australia.

---

**From:** Smithson [mailto:smithson@smithsonplanning.com.au]  
**Sent:** Friday, 20 November 2009 1:01 PM  
**To:** [Peter.Kerr@wanews.com.au](mailto:Peter.Kerr@wanews.com.au)  
**Subject:** Corruption and Crime Commission WA - City of Albany

Mr Peter Kerr  
Journalist  
The West Australian

Good afternoon Peter – an excellent observation by Len Buckeridge in yesterday's West Australian.

A very clear case exists in relation to the role of LandCorp and the State Government in respect to the Ravensthorpe Nickel Project – both residential and industrial land supply in Ravensthorpe and Hopetoun.




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**From:** Smithson [mailto:smithson@smithsonplanning.com.au]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 18 November 2009 11:47 AM  
**To:** [Christiana.Jones@wanews.com.au](mailto:Christiana.Jones@wanews.com.au)  
**Subject:** Corruption and Crime Commission WA - City of Albany

Ms Christiana Jones  
Journalist  
The West Australian

Good morning Christiana –

I am sure it is nothing personal, because it takes a lot of different professions to produce an outcome, including the judiciary, lawyers and journalists.



Now the interesting prospect arises when you examine a media group's reasons for not reporting a matter (over 12 years) – the protection of a Chairman, major shareholders or even the State (but certainly not the public interest).

The Lieutenant-Governor's observations make for an interesting juxtaposition relative to Graham Thomson's comments at Page 22 – 'All WA benefits', as Chairman of the WA Regional Development Council in reference to the Royalties for Regions program.



**From:** Smithson [mailto:smithson@smithsonplanning.com.au]  
**Sent:** Thursday, 12 November 2009 4:41 PM  
**To:** [Bob.Cronin@wanews.com.au](mailto:Bob.Cronin@wanews.com.au)  
**Subject:** FW: Corruption and Crime Commission WA - City of Albany

Mr Bob Cronin  
 Chief of Staff  
 The West Australian

Good afternoon Bob – since I first contacted Paul Murray on 2 October 2009, I have not received a single telephone call from any other WAN journalist – while the Governor of Western Australia did make an official visit to Albany on 2 November 2009.

I have attached #3 of the key statements of evidence for your consideration – the letter dated 28 May 1998 from Dr Ken Michael as the Chief Commissioner of the Town / Shire of Albany to the Albany Chamber of Commerce & Industry (and the Chamber's letter to myself dated 09 June 1998).

You may be aware that this matter was also formerly referred to the 2007 Review of the CCC (Gail Archer – Burt Francis Chambers), and the then Parliamentary Inspector for the CCC.

Now that the Agribusiness MIS has cost \$350-500 million in investors' funds, I am wondering if it is still *'not in the public interest to investigate this matter'*?

**From:** Smithson [mailto:smithson@smithsonplanning.com.au]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 10 November 2009 10:22 AM  
**To:** [Robert.Taylor@wanews.com.au](mailto:Robert.Taylor@wanews.com.au)  
**Cc:** [Belle.Taylor@wanews.com.au](mailto:Belle.Taylor@wanews.com.au)  
**Subject:** Corruption and Crime Commission WA

Mr Robert Taylor  
 Journalist  
 The West Australian

Fabulous, absolutely fabulous.



**From:** Smithson [mailto:smithson@smithsonplanning.com.au]

**Sent:** Monday, 9 November 2009 11:37 AM

**To:** [Sean.Cowan@wanews.com.au](mailto:Sean.Cowan@wanews.com.au); [Gary.Adshead@wanews.com.au](mailto:Gary.Adshead@wanews.com.au); [Steve.Pennells@wanews.com.au](mailto:Steve.Pennells@wanews.com.au)

**Subject:** Corruption and Crime Commission WA

Mr Sean Cowan

Mr Gary Adshead

Mr Steve Pennells

Investigative Reporters

The West Australian

So do you want to go the Governor of Western Australia? It could also bring down the State Government, and won't reflect very well on Local, Regional and Federal governance. Business and media will also have to shoulder some of the responsibility.

Still the actions of government over the last decade have only cost shareholders / superannuation funds ~\$500 million – and they call it a GFC.

Following our very successful August briefings in Canberra (and the subsequent world tour), I am pleased to advise that the City of Albany resolved on Tuesday 20 October 2009 to commence formal planning and liaison with the relevant Anzac diplomatic missions with the view to staging a symbolic re-enactment of the assembly and departure of the 1<sup>st</sup> ANZEF convoys from King George's Sound on 1 November 2014 and 31 December 2014.



If you would care for a briefing on any of the following projects please advise :

- ❖ HIJMS Ibuki – Japan's forgotten link to the Anzac Legend
- ❖ Albany Anzac 2014-18 – a National Celebration Strategy
- ❖ Rainbow 2000<sup>®</sup> - a Regional Planning Strategy for Albany & Great Southern.

I am sure that you will appreciate that this represents a significant (multi \$billion) growth path for Albany, the Great Southern, Western Australia and Australia.

Our thanks for your continuing interest over the last 12 years – particularly the Ministers and the Shadow Ministers for Foreign Affairs in the last several years.

Sometimes it takes a while to introduce strategic planning, and then bring on board the stakeholders as meaningful participants.

---

**From:** Smithson [mailto:smithson@smithsonplanning.com.au]  
**Sent:** Monday, 2 November 2009 4:17 PM  
**To:** [Shane.Wright@wanews.com.au](mailto:Shane.Wright@wanews.com.au)  
**Subject:** WA Housing Crisis : A Crisis of Planning Strategy

Mr Shane Wright  
 Economics Editor  
 The West Australian

Good afternoon Shane - interesting piece in today's West Australian.

I would concur that 'the States have failed dismally on this front over the past 10 to 15 years.'

In no small part though, the media has played a significant role in that outcome, actively manipulating the politics of planning and environmental law.




---

**From:** Smithson [mailto:smithson@smithsonplanning.com.au]  
**Sent:** Friday, 2 October 2009 5:13 PM  
**To:** 'Paul Murray'  
**Subject:** RE: WA Criminal Code - S.83 Citation (Corruption by a Public Officer).

Mr Paul Murray  
 Journalist  
 WA Newspapers

Cheers for that – You will find the references for our documentation at –

<http://www.smithsonplanning.com.au/R2000ManypeaksGovernance.pdf> and

<http://www.smithsonplanning.com.au/R2000MajorStatements.pdf>



www.smithsonplanning.com.au

*Law must draw line on corruption* : "Ms Archer (the Hon. Shelly Archer MLC – Labor Member for Mining & Pastoral Region) was charged under Section 83 of the Criminal Code for passing on to her friend, lobbyist Brian Burke, a copy of a letter from the Shire of Broome to former planning minister Alannah MacTieman (MLA, currently the State Member for Armadale, but also a potential Federal Labor candidate for Canning MHR, or the Western Australian Senate Team). In the interests of a full understanding of this perplexing situation, here is Section 83 (of the WA Criminal Code Act Compilation Act 1913") :

"Any public officer who, without lawful authority or a reasonable excuse –

- a. Acts upon any knowledge or information obtained by reason of his office or employment;
- b. Acts in any matter, in the functions of his office or employment, in relation to which he has, directly or indirectly, any pecuniary interest; or
- c. Acts corruptly in the performance or discharge of the functions of his office or employment,

so as to gain a benefit, whether pecuniary or otherwise, for any person, or so as to cause a detriment, whether pecuniary or otherwise, to any person, is guilty of a crime and is liable to imprisonment for 7 years."

"That section seems impossibly, even dangerously, broad in this era of rapid movement of information at the press of a computer key. Politicians work to the benefit of other people, principally their electors. Section (a) does not require the information to be confidential, just that which is gained as part of their work and which is useful to another person. What benefit, other than pecuniary, that may be derived from the passage of information could be deemed to be corrupt? Politicians deal in information. So do lobbyists (as do public servants). The law should explicitly define where the intersection creates corruption."

*Paul Murray, Journalist, The West Australian Extract : West Australian (Page 21), 24 Sep 2009*

*Note # – WA Criminal Code Act Compilation Act 1913, [Section 83 inserted by No. 70 of 1988 s. 16; amended by No. 8 of 2002 s. 4.]*

*Following up – So the question arises, What would prompt the former Chief Commissioner of the City of Albany, who is now the Governor of Western Australia to act (or not act as the case may be) so as to preclude a comprehensive investigation of a matter formally referred to the Corruption and Crime Commission in respect to the actions of past and present planning officers of the City of Albany. Systemic corruption in any organization can only exist with the support of the Executive Administration and the Elected Representation (be they Councillors, Mayors, Members of Parliament, Ministers, Premiers, or the Governor of the State of Western Australia).*

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**From:** Paul Murray [mailto:paul.murray@wanews.com.au]

**Sent:** Friday, 2 October 2009 9:58 AM

**To:** Smithson

**Subject:** RE: WA Criminal Code - S.83 Citation (Corruption by a Public Officer).

G'day: That section was rewritten recently, in 2002 I think.

The new section reads like this:

### 83. Corruption

Any public officer who, without lawful authority or a reasonable excuse —

- (a) acts upon any knowledge or information obtained by reason of his office or employment;
  - (b) acts in any matter, in the performance or discharge of the functions of his office or employment, in relation to which he has, directly or indirectly, any pecuniary interest; or
  - (c) acts corruptly in the performance or discharge of the functions of his office or employment,
- so as to gain a benefit, whether pecuniary or otherwise, for any person, or so as to cause a detriment, whether pecuniary or otherwise, to any person, is guilty of a crime and is liable to imprisonment for 7 years.

You will find a link to it here: [http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/wa/consol\\_act/ccaca1913252/notes.html#appendixb](http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/wa/consol_act/ccaca1913252/notes.html#appendixb)

Regards,

Paul Murray

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**From:** Smithson [mailto:smithson@smithsonplanning.com.au]

**Sent:** Wednesday, 30 September 2009 4:02 PM

**To:** [Paul.Murray@wanews.com.au](mailto:Paul.Murray@wanews.com.au)

**Subject:** WA Criminal Code - S.83 Citation (Corruption by a Public Officer).

Mr Paul Murray

Journalist

WA Newspapers

Good afternoon Paul

With reference to your article appearing in *The West Australian* of Thursday 24 September 2009 (Page 21) – 'Law must draw line on corruption', you cite Section 83 of the Criminal Code.



As provided by the WA State Law Publisher website, Section 83 of the WA Criminal Code Act Compilation Act 1913 reads as follows :



For the purposes of our research, can you clarify which piece of legislation your reference is drawn from please?

Yours faithfully  
SMITHSON PLANNING

*Neil R. Smithson*

Neil R. Smithson  
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# Quotable Quotes in the Media Debate

FOCUS

21 - THE WEEKEND AUSTRALIAN www.theaustralian.com.au 13-14, 1999 - 23



Nicolas Rothwell

**F**ROM the peak of Mt Clarence, Neil Smithson stares out across the great bowl of Albany harbour and the ocean beckoning beyond. With his eyes he sees below him a tight, constrained shipping dock, tall silos and a half-empty foreshore. But in his mind he pictures something altogether different – a brand new port across the channel, a housing-studded shoreline, a heritage-listed old quarter – an Albany transformed, a min San Francisco rising amid the hills and bays of Western Australia's near-forgotten south coast.

Smithson is a professional planner, but he is something far more significant, a professional philosopher. His vision is not just about bricks and mortar, it is about a new way of life. He is a man of ideas, a man of vision, a man of courage. He is a man who believes in the power of the individual, in the power of the community, in the power of the nation. He is a man who believes in the power of the future.



## Big picture man

A West Australian planner has an extraordinary recipe for revitalising the regions. His vision of the future is about to face the ultimate test.

As he looks out over the sea, Smithson is not just a man of vision, he is a man of courage. He is a man who believes in the power of the individual, in the power of the community, in the power of the nation. He is a man who believes in the power of the future.

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policy document, but it also will work a major cultural change for Albany and the Great Southern region.

Under Smithson's leadership, the region is set to become a major centre of growth and development. The vision is not just about bricks and mortar, it is about a new way of life. He is a man of ideas, a man of vision, a man of courage. He is a man who believes in the power of the individual, in the power of the community, in the power of the nation. He is a man who believes in the power of the future.

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**Big picture man** : "From the peak of Mt. Clarence, Neil Smithson stares out across the great bowl of Albany harbour and the ocean beckoning beyond. With his eyes he sees below him a tight, constrained shipping dock, tall silos and a half-empty foreshore. But in his mind he pictures something altogether different – a brand new port across the channel, a housing-studded shoreline, a heritage-listed old quarter – an Albany transformed, a min San Francisco rising amid the hills and bays of Western Australia's near-forgotten south coast. Smithson is not just a standard-issue visionary: he is something far more significant, a professional planner, armed with the figures to back up his dreams. He has crafted a detailed model – 'Rainbow 2000' – for the revitalisation and redesign not just of Albany but of the entire surrounding Great Southern region. Over 30 years, he would see it grow from 55,000 to a quarter of a million people."

"This is planning on the heroic scale; it embraces not just economics but politics, it amounts to human engineering – and it suggests a path of dramatic expansion, one that he believes could be applied to several other regional centres across Australia – Mildura, for instance, Wagga, Geraldton or Townsville. It is, put simply, the largest free-standing economic development initiative proposed in this country on the past 20 years. The blueprint for his scheme, of course, is not just about bricks and mortar. It contains 100 projects and aims to generate %4 billion in investment and 30,000 jobs over 30 years. More than that, it goes to the heart of how Australian society functions, how we work together and see ourselves as communities; it offers a new variant of reconciliation, embraces immigration, holds out particular opportunities for young people."

"Smithson knows 'Rainbow 2000' is strong meat. Vested interests, regional politicians, the welfare system, the cosy antipathies of black and white relations – there's nothing it leaves untouched. It fights against the centralising trend towards vast capital cities and depleted regions; it thinks big in a time of limits; it challenges politically enshrined assumptions. It is the triumph of plan and reason over sentiment and convention. It is, of course, the embodiment of a practical philosophy, founded on a clear conception of Australia's character and potential : 'If you're not in a growth mode, you're in a decline mode', Smithson says. Change, today, is inevitable. But there's still a tendency in Australian society for people to think everything should be provided for them at no cost by the Government. I think we have lost sight of what social welfare could be construed to mean, and we've moved towards encouraging a culture of social dependency. How to address that if not by giving people a choice?"

Nicolas Rothwell, Journalist, *The Australian* Extract : *The Weekend Australian* (Page 27), 13 Nov 1999

**Betrayal of trust by Ministers :** “There is no doubt the Perth to Mandurah rail line is WA’s most ambitious engineering project since C.Y. O’Connor’s bold and visionary Goldfields water pipeline. Despite the many doubts raised by well-informed observers, Planning and Infrastructure Minister Alannah MacTiernan was always adamant that the rail link would be completed on budget and time. In the private sector, a business leader who failed to deliver on cast-iron promises would be looking for another job. Why should a different standard be applied to the Minister?” (*or Elected Officials and Public Servants*)

**Paul Armstrong, Editor, The West Australian Editorial : West Australian (Page 18), 13 Apr 2006**

**Finally, a plan that will lay to rest Perth’s Dullsville tag :** At last, the blight that has divided the city centre from Northbridge – the railway – can disappear underground and a vibrant, attractive, safe area surrounded by apartments and pedestrian-friendly streets created in its place. At last, Perth will be able to claim itself a city of international appeal which does not close down at the end of the business day, and is not captive to the night-time exploits of gangs and hoodlums.”

“It is worth remembering, however, that this is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to change for the better the fabric of the city. Care must be taken to ensure that succeeding generations have no cause to complain about their legacy and rather, that they are thankful for the vision of their forebears. The redevelopment plan requires more than just the public support it richly deserves. It also needs a great deal of money from developers. That should not be hard to find because the new area could become the most exciting part of the city, tailor-made for visionary architecture and cutting-edge design.”

“If there is disappointment it lies in the seven years that the project will take to complete. It will not be finished until 2014 (*the first of the Anzac years*), and inevitably such projects take far longer than predicted. It must be hoped that the impetus generated by this proposal can be extended to plans for the redevelopment of the city foreshore. That too has been notable for a complete lack of action, despite it also being the subject of debate for many years.”

“Not making the most of such a wonderful asset is a serious failure by the city’s planners. While both developments could be expected to be used and enjoyed by tourists, that should not be the only aim. All West Australians benefit from having a lively, energetic capital city. This new plan cannot be allowed to go the way of so many others, into a dusty vault somewhere. The State Government and the Perth City Council must ensure that this time, it all comes to something.”

**Paul Armstrong, Editor, The West Australian Editorial : West Australian (Page 14), 04 Jan 2007**

**The Leach Highway Deviation :** “The most disappointing aspect of the continuing battle over heavy haulage in suburban Riverton is that it was so utterly predictable. When then-premier Geoff Gallop stood beside his colleague campaigning for the (*State*) Seat of Riverton, just days before the last election (2005), and announced that trucks would be made to detour around the suburb, it has become apparent he was doing no more than engaging in a base political manoeuvre.”

“Apart from disrupting the amenity of people living nearby, the constant line of trucks is a danger to other road users. The Riverton experience offers further evidence that a politician’s promise is a feeble thing. No wonder the public is fed up with politicians, and no longer has much faith in any pledge made during an election campaign. People are tired of being duped, and ... treated with contempt by politicians eager for their vote but who appear to have no regard for returning that faith.”

“A public company could not get away with being so cavalier. Shareholders and regulators would, quite rightly, call it to account. Yet politicians continue to get away with behaviour that is so blatantly self-serving it beggars belief. At the time, the Government was in trouble with Riverton residents for deciding against the long-planned Fremantle Eastern By-pass, which would have removed heavy haulage from the areas of complaint. The promise to re-route the trucks was its ill-planned, policy-on-the-run alternative, delivered in the final days of the election campaign with the clear aim of ensuring Mr McRae was re-elected.” (*Note : Albany Ring Road – Stage 1 – Northern By-pass, under construction*).

**Paul Armstrong, Editor, The West Australian Editorial : West Australian (Page 16), 19 Jan 2007**

**Business ethics under question in big takeover adventures :** “Alinta is now headed for an uncertain future with confirmation yesterday that it has had a takeover offer from Macquarie Bank, as an alternative to one from the consortium that includes Babcock & Brown (*and Singapore Power*). But the more worrying general issue is the evidence that emerged of blindness to ethical issues of potential conflicts of interests by highly placed business people.”

“Mr Costello (*the Federal Treasurer*) yesterday stopped short of rebuking the Qantas board, though he made it clear that it should now look to the interests of shareholders. However, he should now also look at a wider emerging problem of diminishing public confidence in business ethics, especially when board members of big companies seem to confuse their own interests with those of shareholders generally. He should tell them in no uncertain terms that their overriding obligation is to honour the trust of the shareholders.”

**Paul Armstrong, Editor, The West Australian Editorial : West Australian (Page 16), 08 May 2007**

**Bastardy in MacTiernan’s port stratagem :** “Mr Buckeridge’s consortium signed a contract with the previous coalition government and got environmental approval for stage one of its project after seven years. So that proposal is already afoot, but is apparently about to be directed into an ideological dead-end because the Government has its own plans, one of which, Mr Buckeridge says, would block access to his proposed port. He has good reason to be angry. It looks very much as if the Government is bent on using the authority entrusted to it by the people to ride over the top of a private developer – and one who has been widely regarded over the years as being an enemy of Labor at that.”

“Ms MacTiernan is on record as saying a new container and cargo port is too important to the WA economy to be delivered to private control. The irony will not be lost on West Australians of that remark coming from a member of a government under



constant siege for its inability to run just about anything effectively, from a crumbling public health system to schools that can't even be staffed properly. Ms MacTiernan has put the integrity of WA's planning procedures under question and is jeopardising the State's reputation as a place in which to do business and invest. She should focus on her obligation to serve the public interest rather than on threadbare ideology and archaic ideas of class warfare."

*Paul Armstrong, Editor, The West Australian Editorial : West Australian (Page 16), 09 Jul 2007*

**ALP must ditch union ideology on water supply :** "The Economic Regulation Authority has introduced a welcome element of pragmatic good sense into the water supply debate with the release of its far-sighted discussion paper on the issue. Whether it has the desired effect on the Government's policy, however, is at best problematical. The discussion paper challenges the State Government's blind ideology of opposition to privatisation. It suggests a radical policy shift that would end the Water Corporation's monopoly control over water supply. Labor's anti-privatisation policy was an archaic constraint on good economic policy when it was elected in 2001 and is even more so now."

"One of its effects has been to leave decaying power generation works in public management, with taxpayers bearing the costs, while private enterprise is able to cherry-pick in a power market that falls seriously short of providing the benefits of genuine competition. Though there is official lip-service to private involvement in water supply, the picture there is similarly bleak. The Government points to what it says is an already high level of such involvement in the corporation's operations, but there is no real competition and no plan for it. The ERA has pointed to a compelling need for change in water policy in the public interest. However, the biggest change that is needed is for the Government to abandon its ideological stance which betrays the interests of West Australians."

*Paul Armstrong, Editor, The West Australian Editorial : West Australian (Page 14), 24 Jul 2007*

**The vision thing scarce in politics – The boldest plan for our future comes from the BCA :** "It is a sad indictment of the poverty of ideas in Australian politics that the most comprehensive vision articulated for Australia over the next three years comes not from a political party but the **Business Council of Australia**, which has set the goal for Australia to rank among the top five OECD economies in living standards by 2012. This is a bold target and it is achievable but only if governments are prepared to grasp the nettle of reform. To the extent that infrastructure is on the federal election agenda we have been treated by both sides of politics to their version of the blame game. The federal government points out that responsibility for most infrastructure lies with state governments. True, but one of the biggest obstacles to business investment is the absence of effective national infrastructure markets with uniform regulation and this can only be achieved by the federal and state governments working together."

"Everywhere we look we see evidence of an economy that is being held back by our creaking infrastructure : decrepit railway with archaic signal boxes, queues of ships at coal ports, inadequate highways, congested roads, crowded public transport, rural and urban water shortages, electricity black-outs in peak demand periods. Yet private-sector investment and effective competition are being stymied by unions and spineless or lazy governments. The Australian has consistently called for federal and state governments to take up the reform mantle that the Hawke-Keating governments drove in the 1980s and 90s, and which has languished since then. Sadly, it seems it may be only when Australia is in recession, as it was in 1983 and again in 1990, that governments are driven to make the hard but necessary decisions. It would be a tragedy if the prosperity the country is enjoying at the moment were frittered away rather than invested in giving us the infrastructure we need to meet the challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century."

*Editorial : The Weekend Australian (Page 18), 06 Oct 2007*

**Enabling the Spirit – Small government is needed, not small targets :** "The highest patriotism and philanthropy consist, not so much in altering laws and modifying institutions, as in helping and stimulating men to elevate and improve themselves by their own free and independent individual action. The power of governments to improve the life of the nation is generally overrated, particularly by prime ministerial candidates facing an election. The shared premise at tomorrow night's election debate will be that by changing the government you change the nation. As always, the alternative prime minister will argue that change is for the better, the incumbent that change will be for the worse. It is a convenient fiction for which journalists, commentators and ultimately voters usually fall."

"As the Scottish engineer and social reformer Samuel Smiles observed, people have always been prone to believe that their happiness and well-being are secured by means of institutions rather than their own conduct. But everything we have observed about the nature of government shows the most effective are those that enable rather than restrict. Where people are subjected to over-guidance and over-governance, the inevitable tendency is to render them comparatively helpless. The lesson of the great socialist experiments of the 20<sup>th</sup> century is that demand economies are more effective than command economies. The invisible hand of the market advances the human condition more effectively than the heavy hand of bureaucracy. No where is that illustrated more starkly than in China, the driver for much of the prosperity we now enjoy. Compare the results of Chairman Mao Zedong's second five-year plan of 1958, perversely known as *The Great Leap Forward*, with his successor Deng Xiaoping's *Four Modernisations* 20 years later. The former led to the crippling of agriculture and industry, mass starvation, repression and the death of millions (*not to omit two wars*). The latter unleashed the power of the free market in the world's most populous nation, lifting hundreds of millions out of poverty."

The extent to which Kevin Rudd is, as he claims, an economic conservative is therefore of some consequence. In *The Weekend Australian* today, Paul Kerin argues that in his published works, Mr Rudd confuses values and means. The market is neither virtuous nor evil, it simply creates the means whereby values can be applied. For his part, John Howard, with a record of heavy middle-class welfare spending, hardly enters this election as a champion of small government. With the worm now banished from

tomorrow's TV debate, *The Weekend Australian* proposes another measure by which Mr Howard and Mr Rudd's rhetoric should be judged, the principles set out in the introduction to Smile's tract quoted at the top of these columns. We look for policies that enable the spirit of self-help, which constitutes the true source of national vigour and strength, rather than policies that restrict and enfeeble."

*On Scottish engineer Samuel Smiles, Self Help (1859) Editorial : Weekend Australian (Page 18), 20 Oct 2007*

*Following up* – Ray Martin of Channel Nine's 'A Current Affair' and 'Sixty Minutes' decided it was un-Australian not to have the worm, notwithstanding the best efforts of Australian media and the National Press Club in Canberra to pull the plug on free speech. There are some advantages to being two-hours behind the rest of the nation, and living in a society where the 'Power of One' prevails.

*Newspapers lead in the battle for accountability* : "The effect of electronic publishing has been to fragment the news market, leaving newspapers better placed to delve more deeply into the issues which affect daily life. Importantly, they are more willing to resist the increasing pressure of spin, by questioning and demanding answers from government and corporate leaders keen to keep the public in the dark. Newspapers continue to stand strongly against manipulation and obfuscation and to lead in the essential fight for accountability. *The West Australian*, celebrating its 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary today, is committed to playing its part."

*Paul Armstrong, Editor, The West Australian Editorial : West Australian (Page 20), 05 Jan 2008*

*Time to overrule suburb mindset on city planning* : "Here we go again. Perth City Council is trying to put obstructions in the way of a visionary development proposal. In doing so, it is reinforcing the view that Perth is the city that says No. This time the council has decided that it will support the State Government's waterfront proposal in principle, but also has passed 18 recommendations that are highly critical of the design. If most councillors have 18 strenuous objections to the proposal, then what is left for them to support in principle? The conclusion is almost inescapable that the so-called in-principle support negated by a plethora of criticisms is intended to be a new way of saying No, without appearing bluntly to do so."

"Lord Mayor Lisa Scaffidi knew what she was doing when she asked the council not to be 'provincial in our dreams for Perth's future.' Perth has been dogged by council provincialism and a focus on narrow local interest that have betrayed West Australians' aspirations for a vibrant, interesting and attractive capital. Plans for city foreshore development have come and gone over the years but have resulted in little action. There are reasons for cynics to believe that the perpetual nay-sayers will have their way and this one, too, will be consigned to oblivion."

"However, Planning and Infrastructure Minister Alannah MacTiernan is standing firm on this one, as she should. She says the council's response to the development is not a show stopper, nor should it be. In essence, the proposal is to take the city to a part of the foreshore. Too much planning in the council – or lack of it – has been based on a suburban mindset and restricted by timidity and a lack of vision. Implicit in the State's plan is an understanding that central Perth should be allowed to become a real city, rather than an extension of suburbia. That means, among other things, that it should be a place where people can gather for a wide range of social, cultural and other activities."

"One of Perth's big deficiencies as a city is that it provides little ready access to its magnificent waterways. The State's development proposal would remedy that. Obviously, there has to be room for negotiation on issues such as what may be the excessive height of some of the proposed buildings. However, the development proposal overall is for something the city desperately needs and Ms MacTiernan deserves community support in her determination to make it happen."

*Paul Armstrong, Editor, The West Australian Editorial : West Australian (Page 20), 24 Apr 2008*

*Anzac spirit continues to define values for nation* : "The Australian young men and boys who, moved by a spirit of patriotism and service, signed up for World War I would have been astonished if anyone had suggested that their deeds would help define the enduring values of a young nation. They were, after all, everyday people, drawn from all walks of life, and did not regard themselves as being exceptional. Yet nearly a century on, the nation looks back on them with pride and draws inspiration from the qualities they, and the inheritors of their tradition, have shown on battlefields. Anzac Day has become the most important day of national observance on the calendar. It is not, as some critics have misguidedly said, a celebration of war. It is primarily a commemoration of people who have made the ultimate sacrifice in the service of their country, an occasion to honour their memory and to give thanks for their contributions to protecting our precious liberties."

"It also increasingly has become a time for contemplating the values that we aspire to uphold as a nation and whether these remain true to the grand tradition of the Anzacs. The Australian community has grown and changed dramatically over the past century, for better or worse. It is a far different society from the one the original Anzacs left for war all those years ago. Yet their qualities continue to shape the national character, providing a touchstone for basic values such as the fair go and egalitarianism. The Young Anzacs who stormed the cliffs of the Dardanelles on April 25, 1915, distinguished themselves with the extraordinary spirit they showed in refusing to be daunted by the impossible task of dislodging the Turks from their commanding position above. They weren't to know it at the time, of course, but their heroism established a distinctively Australian tradition."

"When we think of the Anzacs, we think of courage, mateship, determination and an indomitable spirit. We also think of a characteristic irreverence, especially in the face of self-important authority, and of humour in the most testing of circumstances. They were closely representative of the society from which they came and their spirit is still part of Australia. The Anzacs in both world wars were overwhelmingly citizen soldiers who served until the enemy was beaten, because Australia initially did not have a professional standing army or a hereditary aristocratic officer corps. This may help to explain a democratic ethos in the Australian military. That has been reinforced by civilian oversight by governments guided by principles such as the rule of law and freedom of thought and expression. These are favourable conditions for fostering resourcefulness and individual initiative. Troops returning from wars went back to civilian life. They were not seen (*or treated*) as separate from the community but as

belonging to it. That closeness remains to this day and is particularly marked on Anzac Day. The example of loyalty, self-sacrifice and commitment to duty set by the Anzacs came from within Australian society, rather than being imposed, and continues to be the standard to which Australians should aspire. Our debt to them is immeasurable. *Lest we forget.*”

*Paul Armstrong, Editor, The West Australian Editorial : West Australian (Page 20), 25 Apr 2008*

**Gas failure puts nuclear energy on agenda again :** “Alan Carpenter is nothing if not constant in his obdurate refusal to consider the merits of nuclear energy. Time and again the Premier has maintained the line that there will be no domestic nuclear energy in Western Australia on his watch. The fact that WA has had two potentially crippling gas misadventures in the past six months and that oil prices are beginning to bite deeply into government and household budgets does not, apparently, cause him to ponder the wisdom of a stance which also bans the mining of uranium. He is boxing himself (WA, *Australia and the Globe*) into a tight corner as concerns grow that WA is not considering the nuclear option as part of an energy blueprint to meet future power needs.”

“The WA Chamber of Commerce and Industry, for instance, believes that the State must at least consider nuclear energy as a base-load power source since the world is facing what is called a carbon-constrained future. WA, the CCI rightly pointed out, is one of the world’s richest sources of uranium. Sixteen percent of the world’s power comes from the nuclear energy used in more than 30 countries. The rapid rise in the past month in the price of oil is a stark reminder that refusing to acknowledge the potential of nuclear energy, and to consider it as part of an overall energy scheme, may come at a hefty financial cost. Renewable sources of energy, including solar, must be considered too, though a report 18 months ago by a House of Representatives industry and resources committee found that renewable sources were limited in their application by being intermittent and diffuse and that they posed significant storage problems. The committee found that at present the only alternative to fossil fuel was nuclear energy.”

“Mr Carpenter’s opposition to it (nuclear energy), and the suspicion that his argument is based on outdated and populist ideology which a substantial part of the community and certainly some members of his own party no longer accept, may see him heading for political trouble. At the very least, he must be mature enough to include nuclear energy in any debate about how the State will meet the business and household needs of the future. He cannot remain captive to a philosophy which ignores the increasing foolishness of a blinkered reliance on fossil fuels. It is generally accepted that nuclear power generation is unlikely in Australia within at least the next decade and probably longer. But like the mining of uranium in WA, it is all but inevitable.”

*Paul Armstrong, Editor, The West Australian Editorial : West Australian (Page 20), 10 Jun 2008*

*Following up – At the National Press Club in Canberra this very day, Premier Mike Rann of South Australia, now the longest serving Labor premier in Australia, and currently National President of the Australian Labor Party, who governs in minority with one National Party and one Independent Liberal as ministerial members of his State Cabinet, outlines SA’s plans to embrace uranium mining and nuclear power.*

**Albany – the cradle of WA media :** “The announcement at the weekend of Yasmine Phillips as the WA best Newcomer in the 2008 Media Awards was the latest in a series of successes for journalists trained at the *Albany Advertiser*. Now a member of the West’s political news team, Phillips was commended for ‘great maturity’ in her work, admirable persistence, and her wide talent in writing in different styles for news and feature reporting. Speaking after her win, Phillips said she owed the successful start to her career to the solid training she had received as a cadet at the *Albany Advertiser*. I recall my time at the *Advertiser* with great pleasure and with gratitude for the diversity of my work, the thoroughness of my training and the willingness of the community to work with the paper’s editorial staff to deliver key messages, Phillips said. Other cadets who worked with Phillips include Paul Mole, now managing editor and general manager of the *Countryman* in Perth, and Conrad Natoli, now working as media liaison officer in the Federal government (not mentioning Paige Taylor, *The Australian*; Craig Smart, *ABC News Perth*; Dawn Gibson, Belle Taylor, Sue-Ellen Jerrard and Susan Hewitt, all *The West Australian*).”

“Samantha Beech also worked with them and is now the Perth-based senior reporter and a producer with *GWN* news. Rhianna King also preceded Phillips as a political reporter at *The West*, served in the Canberra Press Gallery and is now travelling overseas. Matt Price, who died last November at the age of 46, spent his early news-room days at the *Albany Advertiser* and went on to a distinguished career which ended at *The Australian*. And, of course, former Premier Alan Carpenter got his start as a cadet in Albany (at the *Advertiser*) before making a name for himself on the *7.30 Report* with the ABC and then entering politics. From its headquarters in York Street (*Albany*), the *Albany Advertiser* manages the *Kimberley Echo* in Kununurra; the *Broome Advertiser*; the *North West Telegraph* in Port Hedland; the *Pilbara News* in Karratha; the *Northern Guardian* in Carnarvon; the *Narrogin Observer*; the *Great Southern Herald* in Katanning; the *Countryman* in Perth; and is editorial adviser to the *Geraldton Guardian* and 2008 award-winning *Busselton Dunsborough Times*.”

*Andrew Mole, Managing Editor, Albany Advertiser Article : Albany Advertiser (Page 2), 13 Nov 2008*

*Following up – Denise Smithson, Managing Director of Smithson Media, and formerly Editor / Acting Editor / Deputy Editor / Sub-Editor, of the Albany Advertiser (1997-2008).*

*Following up – In January 2010, the City of Albany determined that the further services of Mr Robert Fenn FPIA, Executive Director Development Services, would not be required after 30 June 2010 – at the same time, West Australian Newspapers decided that Mr Andrew Mole’s services were also no longer required.*

**Mark Scott must put news on top of the ABC agenda – It’s time the national broadcaster started breaking stories :** “HERE’S an idea for ABC managing director Mark Scott as he talks up his soon-to-start 24-hour TV news channel: use it for news. Not commentary from ABC journalists who think their opinions on issues and events are news. Not recycled reports that have already appeared on the corporation’s radio stations or web sites. Not lifestyle fluff or PR puff promoting ABC magazines or announcers’ memoirs. Rather, the new station should live up to its name and run news. Breaking news that is not running anywhere else. Detailed news based on the ABC’s enormous capacity to cover complex events as they unfold. Investigative news that puts

questions that politicians and public servants, sports coaches and business bosses do not want to answer. Certainly, creating such a news-hungry TV station is easier said than done, and it will take all of Mr Scott's management skills to deliver. But this is not because the ABC lacks the resources – Mr Scott has already undertaken to establish the new station with his existing team. Rather, it is because of the mirrors of modern management techniques and the smoke of media culture that have led the ABC to lose sight of what a news-gathering culture is committed to.”

“Mr Scott's first challenge is to remove the mirrors he has put in place, which make the ABC look much more productive than it is. The corporation uses the same story across all its platforms, regularly running reports from ABC TV's *Foreign Correspondent* on radio. And while News Radio's brief is to repeat stories until new ones emerge, the same style has been adopted by the other radio networks. On weekends, local radio news bulletins are not updated as they were a decade ago. Reporters are required to rework pieces made for one network for two or three others, and there is internal jockeying over what stories are repeated first on what media, with little regard for how they translate across platforms. To translate a piece from radio for *The Drum* website adds nothing new to the corporation's content, but it can take staff away from news gathering for a day.”

“Just about everything the ABC produces for television and radio appears on the website as well as web-only material, including copy that would be no loss if it never appeared anywhere, such as the digital detritus of much of The Drum's on-line comment. And there is more to come, with talk of radio and online networks sharing material during the election campaign. This repeat use of material looks efficient, filling broadcast time and using enormous amounts of web space, until consumers hear the same story on radio they saw the night before on television, only to find it again online later. Recycling content is not the same as breaking stories, and arguments between the radio networks, television stations and websites over what reports are used in what order take the focus off content and reduce programs to filler.”

“Mr Scott's other challenge is to blow away the smoke that envelopes ABC management and staff who have decided their first function is to comment, rather than report, on the news and that this is best done by focusing on soft stories. The corporation's most intensive users know its journalists too often rely on other media, notably newspapers, to establish what stories they will follow. Monday night's *Four Corners* program on allegations that Reserve Bank-owned firms bribed Indonesian officials to win a currency printing contract made the point. It looked as if it relied on the work of Nick McKenzie, a journalist from *The Age* seconded to the ABC, more than any of the corporation's correspondents. And although the ABC has reporters in every city and large regional centre in the country, they obviously did not know of, or – worse – were not interested in, the roting of the Rudd government's school building program until they read the story in The Australian.”

“There is also an intense focus on reports from government agencies and politically engaged academics in ABC news coverage, and the people reporters more often than not ask to comment on these stories come from lobby groups with barrows to push. The attractions of an easier agenda are apparent on the network's radio current affairs flagships *AM* and *PM*. Where once they tried to trump the morning papers and evening TV news, many magazine-style foreign bureau stories now appear on AM. On AM last Friday, the political implications of the resignation of NSW state transport minister David Campbell, after revelations he frequented a gay venue, were dealt with briefly. The item was followed by a journalist commenting on the resignation before the program moved on to sex industry activists talking about Customs treatment of people importing pornography.”

“To keep up with big stories, people have little alternative to the commercial radio broadcasters who live or die by the stories they break, especially in Sydney, where Ray Hadley on Radio 2GB has zealously pursued problems in the school building program. This retreat from reporting is not of Mr Scott's making: the ABC abandoned serious coverage of state politics on television years before he arrived when it cancelled state-specific editions of the *7.30 Report* every weeknight. But to make his new channel worth watching, to re-establish the credibility of the ABC's news services as a whole, he must create a culture that values finding stories first and foremost instead of focusing on how to use them as many times in as many ways as possible.”

*Chris Mitchell, Editor-in-Chief, The Australian Editorial : The Australian (Page 15), 26 May 2010*

Lateral thinking needed : “If the difficulties facing Albany's business community are accurate – and there appears to be no reason to doubt the claims being made – there is no point hiding from them. Pretending there aren't serious concerns facing local businesses will only serve to hurt the economy further. Prominent real estate agents have seen a downturn in sales so dramatic they hold grave fears for the short-term future of the property market. Elsewhere, there are rumours that the closure of some well-known businesses are imminent. While it is easy to identify the problems, it is far more difficult to come up with the solutions, and that is now the biggest challenge facing local business. It is absolutely vital that businesses work together to come up with ways to entice investment back into the local economy. Unlike in the north, where businesses have capitalised on the resources sector, Albany has little to fall back on when times get tough. Bunkering down and trying to ride it out on their own is unlikely to deliver the sort of turnaround needed to change the economy into a buoyant one. It is not up to the Albany Chamber of Commerce & Industry, or the City of Albany, but the business community as a whole to come up with the ways forward.”

*Ben Spencer, Editor, Albany Advertiser Editorial : Albany Advertiser (Page 8), 03 Jun 2010*

*Message from the President* : “Given the build up to the federal election, there appears some confusion around roles and responsibilities for many of the issues that the Planning Institute and others have been making representation to the Government for a number of years. There are at least four ministers with an obvious link to the planning and built environment agenda.”

“Using my abbreviations, the departments of Sustainability and Population, Regional Development, Infrastructure and the Prime Minister's office appear to all have an important contribution, with city strategic planning systems still administered by the COAG Reform Council and therefore reporting through Prime Minister and Cabinet, whilst it is understood that the Major Cities Unit now reports directly to Minister Albanese rather than through Infrastructure Australia.”

“It will take a while to see what emerges out of the Regional Development portfolio, but clearly this introduces important opportunities for smaller and more remote communities that feature their own unique set of planning issues to be considered. It is also anticipated that the review of ministerial councils earlier this year will result in a significant reduction in the total number, including the Local Government and Planning Ministers' Council. One of the implications of this, when it occurs, is the potential for important planning considerations to be filtered through the Business Competition Regulation Working Group, whose focus is on the Seamless National Economy and therefore regulatory reform, as opposed to long range strategy and policy development.”

“The Institute, both directly and through the partnerships it has with other organisations, will seek to engage with the relevant ministers to ensure that the types of issues members raise are conveyed and, equally important, offer ideas about practical ways to approach some of these subjects. We also have significant elections occurring in the near future in Victoria and New South Wales, where the complexion of government will greatly influence the direction of planning in those two states over the next four years. In many respects this serves to illustrate what we already know, which is that planning practice is never far from the political landscape.”

*Neil Savery, National President, Planning Institute of Australia e-News : 03 Nov 2010*

End of Statements : Other discussion papers and Author's notes follow.

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**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 – [Anzac Centenary Commemorations 2014-18](#) (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 – [Rainbow 2000 Project](#) (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<sup>®</sup> 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 inter-relationship 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<sup>®</sup> – 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
- ❖ Governor-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
- ❖ Governors 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
- ❖ Lord Mayors & 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
- ❖ Local 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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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

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