

Policy no: **1.1.3**



Approval date: **18/12/2006**
(original approval)

Last review date: **02/03/2010**

Policy title: **PUBLIC INTEREST DISCLOSURE (PID)**

POLICY

Western Power will support and protect anyone who makes a public interest disclosure.

A public interest disclosure is a disclosure of information that tends to indicate past, present or future wrongdoing by Western Power (including its directors, officers, employees or contractors) whilst in the performance of its public functions.

PURPOSE

The principles of this policy are intended to:

1. Encourage the disclosure of public interest information as it relates to Western Power and/or its directors, officers, employees or contractors.
2. Mitigate the risk and adverse effects (e.g. profitability, performance and reputation) to Western Power of unlawful and/or improper conduct.

SCOPE

This policy applies to all business activities and operations undertaken by Western Power (including its directors, officers, employees and contractors) in the performance of its public functions.

OUTCOMES

1. Western Power will have a culture committed to the disclosure of public interest information.
2. Western Power will mitigate the risk of unlawful and/or improper conduct by supporting the disclosure of public interest information.
3. Western Power directors, officers, employees and contractors will understand:
 - a. what constitutes a public interest disclosure; and,
 - b. the procedures and processes in place for disclosing and investigating public interest information.

OUR CORPORATE VALUES

This policy aligns with the following Western Power corporate values:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> put safety first | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> make a positive difference |
| <input type="checkbox"/> respect our customers | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> earn trust |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> work together | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> act like it's our own business |

THIS POLICY IS NOT TO BE CONSIDERED IN ISOLATION; IT IS TO BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH ALL RELATED POLICIES AND OTHER DOCUMENTS, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THOSE SPECIFICALLY LISTED IN THE BODY OF THE POLICY DOCUMENT.

Western Power is committed to working with its directors, officers, employees and contractors to encourage the disclosure of public interest information where unlawful and/or improper conduct is suspected. This promotes a positive culture in which:

1. the trust of internal and external stakeholders is earned; and
2. the individual conduct of Western Power directors, officers, employees and contractors is consistent with that expected of the business.

PRINCIPLES

The following principles apply in relation to public interest disclosures:

1. Western Power is committed to the aims and objectives of the [Public Interest Disclosure Act 2003](#).
2. Western Power directors, officers, employees and contractors will not engage in unlawful and/or improper conduct, including fraud, corruption, theft and maladministration, in the performance of their public functions.
3. Western Power directors, officers, employees and contractors will take responsibility for their conduct and be accountable for the consequences of their conduct.
4. Western Power strongly supports public interest disclosures in relation to Western Power and/or its directors, officers, employees and contractors, by anyone who believes on reasonable grounds that the information is true.
5. Public interest information should be disclosed to the Western Power Public Interest Disclosure Officer (**PID Officer**).
6. The PID Officer will investigate the information disclosed, or cause that information to be investigated.
7. The PID Officer will take appropriate action following the completion of the investigation.
8. The PID Officer will report to the discloser as to the progress and outcome of that investigation and any consequent action taken.
9. Western Power will observe and enforce the statutory protection provided to those who disclose public interest information.
10. Western Power will not tolerate its directors, officers, employees or contractors engaging in acts of victimisation or reprisal against those who disclose public interest information.
11. Western Power will maintain the confidentiality of a public interest discloser, and any person who may be the subject of a public interest disclosure.
12. Western Power will maintain public interest disclosure records and comply with all relevant reporting obligations.

If in doubt about a course of action, the Branch Manager Risk Assurance & Audit should be consulted on (08) 9326 4699.

RELATED DOCUMENTS/INFORMATION

Legal references: [Public Interest Disclosure Act 2003](#)

Standards & guidelines: Australian Standard AS8001-2003 Fraud and Corruption Control

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Related policies & other documents:

- 4.02A Code of Conduct ([DM#: 3575156](#))
- 4.02C Conflict of Interest ([DM#: 4040184](#))
- WP Public Interest Disclosure - General Fact Sheet ([DM#: 5049683](#))
- WP Public Interest Disclosure - Guidance for Formal Leaders ([DM#: 5155813](#))
- WP *Public Interest Disclosure Act 2003* - Internal Procedures ([DM#: 2802941](#))

Approving authority for related procedures, guidelines, etc:

General Counsel & Company Secretary

ACCOUNTABILITY AREA:

Risk Assurance & Audit

POLICY OWNER:

Branch Manager Risk Assurance & Audit

NEXT REVIEW DATE:

31/12/2011

APPROVED BY:

People & Performance Committee
(as delegate of the Board)



This is a digital reproduction of the original execution clause

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Doug Aberle".

.....
Doug Aberle – Managing Director

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John Pease".

.....
John Pease – Executive Officer

RESOLUTION NO:
(where applicable)

016/2010/PPC