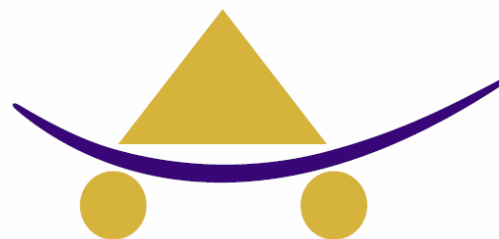




Powering Perth's Communities Forum

11 February 2010



Aha! Consulting

When will you have your next Aha! moment?

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1. Introduction

On 11 February 2010, Western Power held a community forum for people interested in the Powering Perth's Communities (PPC) project. This forum was facilitated by Joel Levin from Aha! Consulting with the following purpose;

- a) To hear how people have been impacted by the project to date
- b) To consider what kind of engagement is needed for the next phase of this Project

9 people attended this forum held in Forrestfield. The following notes represent the facilitator and scribes compilation of the topics and themes discussed throughout the session. These notes are not in any particular order and are not a formal transcript of the event.

1.1. Facilitator Notes

The participants of the forum welcomed the opportunity to have 'the discussion' and were keen to ensure that any discussion about what is required to augment the network is held in the context of a broader and more strategic look at how we meet our power needs.

While there was a great deal of fatigue, frustration and cynicism about a 'new start', members of the community recognised the need for both long and short term solutions and wanted to be part of that discussion as a totality and not for a small facet eg: "don't ask us about the colour of the pole".

These notes present a number of opportunities for the community and Western Power to meet and discuss the questions raised. The community were keen to have these discussions and expressed a desire for access to technical people (that were not Western Power employees) during these discussions to ensure a meaningful deliberation occurred.



2. History Wall

The purpose of the history wall was to track the sequence of events that have taken place during the Eastern Terminal/Powering Perth’s Communities (PPC) project. This is not an exhaustive history and comprises a combination of dates taken from the Stop Eastern Terminal Substation (SETS) website and comments/additions made from the group (www.stopeasternterminal.org.au).

1990	1992	1996	1998	1999	2002	2007	2008	2009	2010
SECWA proposes Eastern Terminal Substation	SECWA sought the Shire of Kalamunda’s approval for Hacketts Gully	Western Power acquires Hacketts Gully site	Residents become aware of the site intention	Shire of Kalamunda Council voted against the new plan for the Terminal Substation	Western Power states the Terminal Substation is no longer required	Western Power informed residents that Eastern Terminal was now required	<p>(August) Western Power announces a ‘fresh start’ to the project and renames it Powering Perth’s Communities. This signalled the promise of a new start, new project team and the fresh assessment of all factors relating to the project to be up for discussion.</p> <p>(September) ACIL Tasman’s evaluation of the site options confirms that Option 8 Wells to Hacketts Gully was the best option</p> <p>(October) Western Power was under pressure for a decision to be made about the line by December 2009, therefore there was no time for consultation</p> <p>(November) Focus group was held with 12 community members, 4 from Hacketts Gully. The group was to comment on a gantry option, however the chosen outcome was not one endorsed by the group.</p>	(February) Western Power decides not to use Landwehr to Byford line route. SETS supports the line from Landwehr to Byford, not the line from Wells to Hacketts Gully	Western Power is engaging on the engagement model

3. Discussion Notes

During the discussion on the history wall a number of comments and statement where made.

What impact has this project had on the community?

- There has been inconsistent delivery of messages to the community about the project which has been perceived as a strategy to prolong the process and 'divide and conquer' the community.
- Community is bemused and don't trust what they are told by Western Power.
- Community is tired and cynical of the process.

Groups concerns with Phase I of the project

- 87kms of the proposed line currently goes through 5 catchment areas
- There will be substantial loss of flora and fauna
- Once a switchyard goes in, what will it turn into? How many reticulation lines will come out of the station in the future?
- How are all the environmental principles/policies being met?
- Perception that the project is only budget driven
- There appears to be reluctance by Western Power to look more broadly at the broader power problem.
- Western Power is applying a 'band aid' solution rather than addressing the longer term solution by asking the community to focus on the terminal, out of context of other decision.

There was agreement and recognition that the network required more power.



4. Community expectations

The group asked the following questions of the project/Western Power

- Will the peak power needs of the community be met by an additional substation?
- Why is Western Power drawing the peak power from Collie? The length of line and the effect on the output must be considered.
- Has the efficiency of the proposed line alignment and the environmental value of the land really been considered?
- How can a 330 kV transmission line be contained in a 40m easement rather than the usual 60m easement? What technologies will be used to make this happen?
- The reduced easement presents a greater opportunity for fire hazards.
- Is Western Power looking for alternative generation sources in the North region?

4.1. “What would the community like to see moving forward with this project and to develop trust in Western Power”

The overall community response to this question was:

- The combined line route and switchyard location to be re-assessed from the very beginning with community input.
- An independent technical panel to be formed with engineers from the community to assess the technical options and to represent the community in comment.
- Forums to be held with the panel and community members to help the community understand the network problems, both short and long term.
- Revisit Collie as the major provider of power.

The SETS representative felt that in order for Western Power to some regain credibility the following needs to happen:

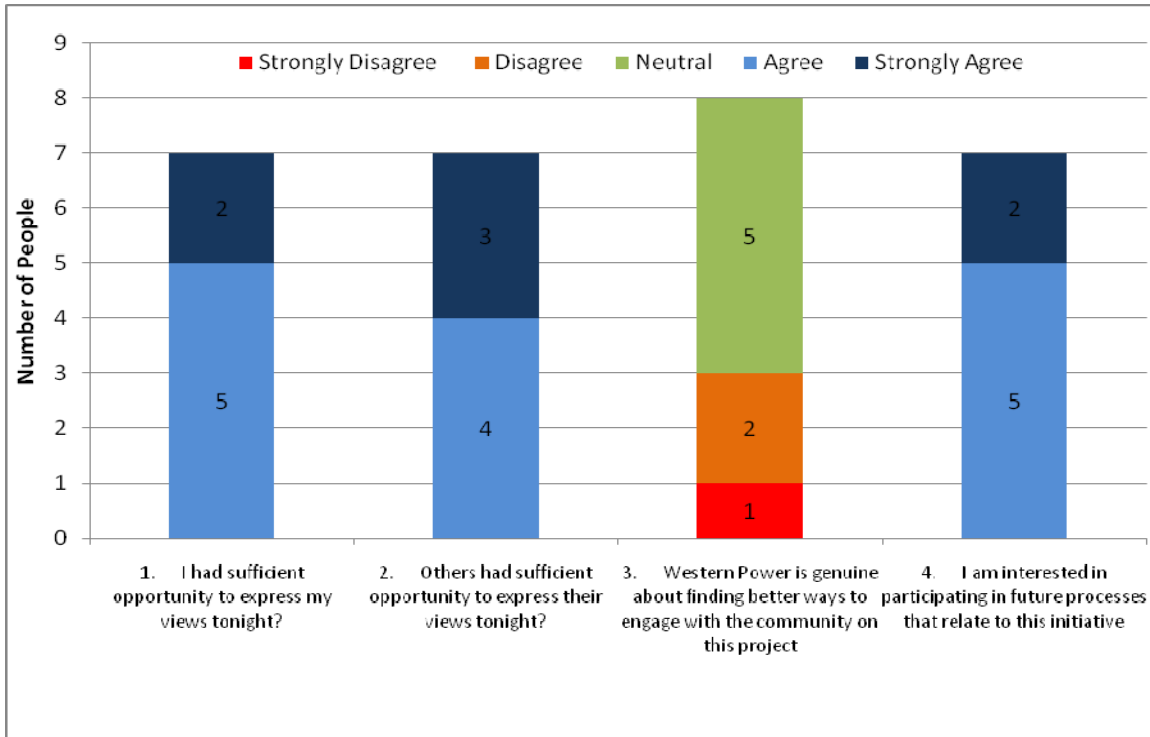
- An assurance by the Managing Director that no terminal substation or switchyard will be built in Hacketts Gully.
- The site in Hacketts Gully to be sold.
- That PPC I and II to be re-opened and discussed as one project that requires a solution with everything ‘on the table’.

4.2. What other questions do we need discuss, as a whole

- What are the alternative sources of power that Western Power can connect into?
- How many ways can Perth’s power be augmented? Both by 2017 and long term?
- Western Power is addressing demand side management alternatives and how they can get the community to change their behaviour towards energy consumption.

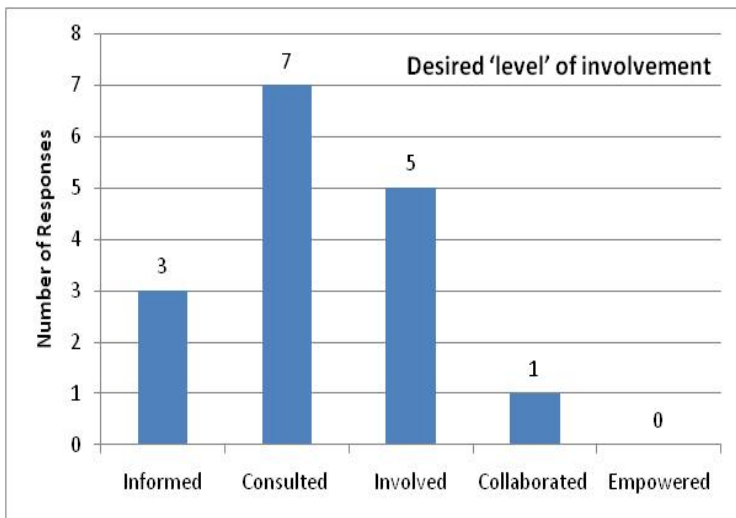
5. Session Feedback

At the close of the session participants were asked to complete an evaluation form. Due to the small numbers at this forum only raw scores are given.



Whilst participants are still uncertain about Western Power’s genuineness, there was a high level of satisfaction with their ability to contribute to the evening and a willingness to continue to be involved in future processes.

Participants were also asked to indicate the ‘level’ of involvement they would like to have as a community member. Nb: More than one option was ‘ticked’ by a number of participants.



- Informed** – Be kept informed about a project with balanced and objective information to assist you in understanding the problem, project options and solution.
- Consulted** – Be kept informed, listened to and your concerns acknowledged, and be provided feedback on how public input influenced the decision.
- Involved** – Worked with directly throughout the process to ensure that public concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered.
- Collaborated** – Partner with Western Power on each aspect of the decision, including the development of options and identification of the preferred solution.
- Empowered** – To have the final decision making placed in the hands of the public

- End of Report-

