From:

DLGSC. Act Review
Subject: Local Government Act Review - Rating Submissic
Date: Tuesday, 26 March 2019 9:38:45 AM
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I wish to convey the Council's position on the issue of current rating restrictions and exemptions granted by State Agreements.

The Shire of Waroona supports the removal of the rating restrictions currently in place in some State Agreements which prohibit mining and refinery land and infrastructure being rated on the Gross Rental Value method, as is the case with other businesses not the subject of a State Agreement. Such State Agreements also allows other industries to be located on land the subject of that State Agreement, effectively rendering them "rate free" as well.

On the basis of fairness and equity it is incumbent on all landowners in a district to contribute equitably through the rating system. The current situation leaves local governments reliant on negotiations with mining companies for ex-gratia rate payments or other such mechanisms to replace the lost income, leaving Councils unable to forward plan and budget effectively beyond the life of any agreement.

The 2015 Rating Policy-Valuation of Land-Mining, introduced in 2015, only applies to land that is a mining tenement held under the Mining Act 1978 and does not apply to sites where the land is owned freehold by the mining company.

I would be pleased to provide further site specific information if required

Kind regards

Ian Curley | CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



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