

<<LetterDate>>
Enquiries: <<CouncilContact>>

<<RatepayerContactName>>
<<AddressLine1>>
<<AddressLine2>>
<<Suburb State Postcode>>

Dear <<Salutation>>

PROPOSED <<AREA NAME>> UNDERGROUND POWER PROJECT
Property Address<<PropertyStreetAddress>> <<PropertySuburb>>

I am pleased on behalf of the <<CityName>> to inform you that <<AreaName>> is being considered for underground power in Round Five of the State Underground Power Program. <<AreaName>> has successfully passed the first stages of evaluation by the State Government's Underground Power Program Steering Committee.

Underground power projects under the State Underground Power Program cannot proceed unless there is community support. A survey is being conducted of all property owners in your area to assist with the final selection. The enclosed brochure and project map (overleaf) has information to help you make an informed decision and complete the survey (survey form included).

Please complete the survey form and return it in the stamped addressed envelope by <<ClosingDate>>. Your support is important for this project to be selected in Round 5.

I believe underground power brings many benefits to you including security of power supplies, more attractive streetscapes, brighter and more evenly lit streets, improved safety and property values. The Program is extremely popular throughout the metropolitan area and many local governments compete to secure projects. Of the 89 proposals submitted in Round Five only about 10% are likely to be chosen. The State Government and Western Power pay <<Govt%&WP%>> of any successful project's costs.

Property owners in <<AreaName>> would be asked to contribute an average of \$<<TotalAmount>> for a typical single residential property towards the cost of this work. The Government and Western Power would also be contributing \$<<Govt&WPAmount>> per property. The cost for owners of units in multi-unit developments would generally be less than this amount. For commercial properties the cost would generally be higher. Seniors and pensioners <<would/would not>> be eligible for a discount.

The <<CityName>> fully endorses the Underground Power Program and encourages you to support the proposed <<AreaName>> project.

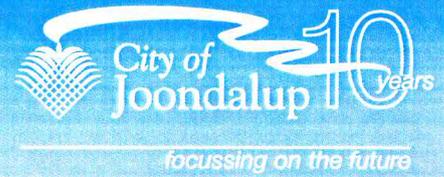
Please refer to page 6 of the attached brochure for contact details regarding any further information required.

Yours Sincerely

<<MayorSignature>>

<<MayorName>>

Mayor



West Greenwood

Underground Power Survey

A message from the Mayor



While more than 60% of our community enjoys the benefits of underground power, there are many who do not. The State Government's Underground Power

Program progressively converts overhead areas to underground power but the available funding is limited. The City of Joondalup and property owners in the West Greenwood project area are fortunate that this area has been selected as one of seven projects to be considered for funding from 89 applications to the Office of Energy for Round 4 funding.

The willingness of property owners in the project area to contribute to the costs is an integral part of the process to get the project approved for funding by the State Government. Neither the City nor the State Government will commit to the project without the support of a significant majority of West Greenwood property owners.

It is extremely important that all property owners take the time to consider this proposal and return the survey form by the due date. If the project does not receive sufficient support from the West Greenwood property owners it will not proceed and the funds will most likely be reallocated to property owners in the next ranked project area (not in the City of Joondalup). A significant opportunity to greatly enhance the local amenity will be lost to the Greenwood community.

I encourage you to consider the opportunity presented to dramatically enhance your streetscape by the West Greenwood Underground Power Project.

Troy Pickard
Mayor

Your opportunity to have Underground Power

The Underground Power Program commenced in 1996 as a partnership between the Government of Western Australia (through the Office of Energy), Local Governments and Western Power to place existing overhead power networks underground. This is an enormous task with 60,000 homes connected to underground power by the Program to date and almost 400,000 homes still to be converted. It is the only large ongoing program of this type anywhere in the world.

The shared funding arrangement which currently operates involves the State Government and Western Power each providing 25% of the funding with the property owners in the project area responsible for the other 50%. Property owners are asked to contribute because they derive the greatest benefit from the project. These benefits include:

- A revitalisation of the area with generally improved property values due to enhanced local amenity
- More reliable power supplies due to the removal of exposed overhead powerlines
- Improved road safety due to removal of old power poles
- A high standard of street lighting which brings improved community safety and security
- Removing the need for unsightly street tree pruning adjacent to power lines.

The City of Joondalup submitted the West Greenwood area to the Office of Energy in early 2006 when invitations were sent to all Local Governments to apply for funding for projects in Round 4 of the Program. There were 89 applications and West Greenwood was selected as one of seven projects to be granted funding subject to completion of a Detailed Proposal Stage. This involves:

- Surveying of and consultation with the local community by the City of Joondalup
- Design of the underground power scheme by Western Power
- Tendering and firming up on final cost by Western Power
- Completion of formal agreement between the Office of Energy, Western Power and the City of Joondalup

The guidelines for applications under the Program limit the project size to between 800 and 1300 lots.

This Survey is the opportunity for property owners in the West Greenwood project area (see attached map) to ensure that State Government and Western Power funding for the Project is secured.

Cost to the ratepayer

The average cost to provide underground power to a single residential property is expected to be around \$11,700. The State Government and Western Power will each fund 25% of this and property owners will need to pay the remaining 50% of about \$5,850. The charges for commercial properties, schools and other facilities will vary according to the estimated electrical load of the premises. These will be individually assessed.