



Marina plan 'insufficient'

A SPECIALIST consultant, hired by the Rockingham council to assess the Public Environmental Review (PER) for the proposed Port Rockingham Marina, has identified a number of shortfalls.

In a submission endorsed by the council's planning services committee on Monday, the consultant reported that overall plans of the development were "insufficient."

A major shortfall was the impact of the marina on the marine environment, with no information given on sediment quality or the impact of disturbing sediment contaminants during construction.

There was also an issue with the management of stormwater run-off from the proposed car park and fuel storage areas, which if not addressed, could pose a potential public health risk.

Another major concern related to the level of turbidity plume, which the consultant reported would likely extend beyond the 500m indicated in the PER.

"The PER has assumed the extent of the turbidity plume based

on other construction projects in Cockburn Sound," the submission read. "It is likely that local conditions, such as finer sand release, water column, local current condition, wave condition and wind conditions will vary from the previous example used."

Other shortfalls related to the ecological assessment, ground water monitoring, climate change and a lack of planning regarding the use of and access to the beach.

Council officers also identified concerns with management of dust during construction.

At Monday's meeting, councillors raised their own concerns, such as the potential impact of dust from the CBH Grain Terminal on investors and the general enjoyment of the marina.

Cr Ann Prince said she had received many phone calls from residents who had concerns about what would happen to the bowling and tennis clubs if the marina was built.

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