



Marinas stay afloat

By **YVONNE THOMPSON**

ROCKINGHAM could well have two marina developments in the future if two proposals – Cape Peron Marina precinct and Port Rockingham Marina – come to fruition.

Both developments, which have been on the drawing board for many years, received approval to move forward within days of each other.

Last Friday Premier Colin Barnett announced the Cape Peron Marina-based development would move to the next stage.

A partnership offering developers an opportunity to take part in the development is now being advertised by LandCorp.

On Monday the Environmental Protection Authority said in its report on the Port Rockingham proposal at Wanliss Street foreshore that it was unlikely the

EPA's objectives would be compromised by the development, provided there was satisfactory implementation by the proponent, Rosewood Grove Pty Ltd, of commitments and recommended conditions.

A two-week public appeal period on the report closes on October 13. The EPA report 1339 is available at www.epa.wa.gov.au.

EPA chairman Paul Vogel said the Port Rockingham proposal satisfied a longstanding need for additional boating requirements and as it would be established in an area devoid of seagrass, it would not significantly affect any marine plants and animals.

"The marina has been designed to allow for a rapid water body flushing rate, reducing the potential for algal blooms and other water quality issues," he said.

A Rosewood Grove spokesman said the proponent understood and appreciated the recommendations of the EPA and was looking forward to the final determination by the Environment Minister.

"The recommendations are in line with Rosewood Grove's responses to the submissions to the public environmental review. The development will provide an iconic destination for tourists and local visitors and will help address the chronic shortage of recreational boating facilities in WA," the spokesman said.

"Subject to approvals, we'd be keen to start construction before the end of 2010."

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