



Plan to proceed with marina is 'misguided'

RESPONDING to the announcement by Premier Colin Barnett and Planning Minister John Day last week to go ahead to the next stage of the Cape Peron Marina project — the environmental assessment stage — spokesman for the Preserve Point Peron Group, James Mumme, said the canal project was misguided.

He said no study had been held into the needs of the Rockingham residents and he did not believe the majority of "boaties" wanted canals.

"The site for these canals is environmentally very difficult; most of it is Bush Forever land," he said.

"The Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) has demanded the highest level of approval possible. Major concerns remain about sea-grass, water quality in Cockburn Sound, ground water in the entire area, acid sulphate soils and two threatened ecological communities at Lake Richmond."

Chairman of the Rockingham Kwinana Development Office task-force and South Metropolitan MLC Phil Edman said it was not a marina, nor a canal development, but a precinct plan with a residential component envisaged.

"Whether it be a canal, finger jetty mooring site or a breakwater has yet to be determined," Mr Edman said.

"But until the environmental assessment is finished, there is no real plan."

Mr Mumme said his group's stance was not to oppose the wishes of the boating community as it supported the Port Rockingham jetty proposal off Wanliss Street.