



SHIRE UPDATE October 2011



Government of Western Australia
Department of Regional Development and Lands



PILBARA CITIES
DEVELOPING THE FUTURE

PROJECT STATUS UPDATE

Safe and reliable underground power will soon be delivered throughout Karratha and parts of Roebourne with the Pilbara Underground Power Project now well underway. Works are well advanced in Bulgarra, Millars Well and the Karratha Industrial Estate.

The Pilbara Underground Power Project is a partnership between the Government of Western Australia (through Pilbara Cities) and Local Government Authorities, including the Shire of Roebourne. The project, delivered by Horizon Power, aims to provide cyclone-affected North West towns with a safe and reliable power supply, by replacing ageing overhead electricity infrastructure with underground networks.

RATEPAYER CONTRIBUTIONS

In January 2010, the WA Government, through its Royalties for Regions Fund, announced it would contribute an unprecedented \$100 million to deliver underground power in the Pilbara.

This funding allocation was non-discretionary and the Shire of Roebourne chose to take advantage of this generous contribution for the betterment of the entire community.

Usually, local government authorities are required to pay 50 per cent of the total project costs however due to the significant contribution from the State Government (through Pilbara Cities) the Shire of Roebourne will only need to contribute 25 per cent minimizing costs to the ratepayers.

The Shire of Roebourne's contribution will be levied on most ratepayers in Karratha and some in Roebourne as part of the 2012/13 rates notice. Ratepayers unable to meet the initial one-off payment will be able to pay through regular instalments over a period of up to, and including, four years. Eligible pensioners will be entitled to a concession consistent with the Shire's rating policy.

All ratepayers will receive a letter and comprehensive information pack explaining the project and levy in detail.

COMMUNITY BENEFITS

- Increased community safety
- Enhanced power reliability
- More attractive streets
- Improved quality of power supply
- Increased capacity of some power lines
- Reduction in power supply surges

The project will dramatically improve safety and reduce the likelihood of power outages to essential services, residences and businesses during, and immediately following, adverse weather events.

Information on the project is available at Horizon Power's website www.horizonpower.com.au or by calling (08) 9159 7250.

For information on the ratepayer contribution to the project please contact the Shire of Roebourne on (08) 9186 8555.



Powerhouse of the Pilbara