

Mr Simon Fraser
Chief Executive Officer
Shire of Gingin
7 Brockman St
GINGIN WA 6503

September 4 2007

Dear Simon

Further to our conversation last week I am writing to confirm my request that a moratorium be placed on the de-gazetting of the Lancelin off road vehicle area until 31st of March 2008, irrespective of any decisions of the Off Road Vehicle Advisory Committee or Minister.

As you are aware we are in the process of developing a State Trail Bike Strategy that will address all aspects of this issue, including the concerns that you have raised about the Shire's financial, legal and resourcing obligations arising from the provision of the Lancelin off road vehicle area for public use. The State Trail Bike Strategy has the endorsement and active support of the Department of Sport and Recreation, the Department of Environment and Conservation, the Department of Local Government and Regional Development and the Department of Planning and Infrastructure. The draft report and recommendations are scheduled to be released around the end of September. There will be a public consultation period of approximately four to six weeks with the intention that the final report be released in December.

While we acknowledge the difficulties that the Shire of Gingin faces in operating the Lancelin facility under the Off-Road Vehicles Act, we are concerned that closing this facility before alternative arrangements can be put in place would create *inter alia* serious public safety issues by removing one of the very few areas dedicated to the use of off-road vehicles.

If the Lancelin area were to be no longer available the likelihood is that off road vehicle users would disperse to other locations leading to a greater potential for environmental damage and collision with other vehicles, trails users or pedestrians.

By deferring the proposed closure date to 31st of March 2008 Gingin Shire would have the opportunity of assessing the recommendations made in the State Trail Bike Strategy and would allow time for a Lancelin-specific risk management plan to be developed, while imposing a tight timeframe for the urgent implementation of a sustainable Lancelin solution. It would also provide Gingin Shire time to consider the risks inherent in closing the existing ORV facility, including potential impact on local business, costs of enforcement and potential impact of dispersed use of off-road vehicles within the Shire.

I have enclosed a proposal outline for your consideration and would welcome the opportunity to discuss the detail with you and/or your councillors.

Yours sincerely



Steve Pretzel
President