

## **Petition: Opposition to the proposed Youth Night Space Facility at Lot 235 Ivanhoe Road**

With reference to the 29 April Kimberley Echo press release regarding Councils' unanimous opposition to siting a proposed Youth Night Space facility at Salacca Loop, following a petition from 16 concerned residents, we note that the announcement references a 'better outcome' is being sought.

We the 78 undersigned ratepayers, industry support operators, farmers and members of the adjoining Ivanhoe Road community call on Shire Councillors to also oppose the siting of a Youth Night Space at Lot 234 Ivanhoe Road Kununurra.

There has been no engagement with affected community members whatsoever from the WA Attorney General, Department of Justice or Shire of Wyndham East Kimberley and scant information is available from the Kununurra Waringarri Aboriginal Corporation regarding the proposed use of the site, organisational planning, development, building or operational considerations.

While we all strongly support the concept of providing a facility that can protect and care for vulnerable young people, we believe locating such a facility at Lot 235 Ivanhoe Road will imperil the very youth it is designed to help and severely affect the security and wellbeing of surrounding community members.

### **Primary Concerns:**

The siting of a high-density care Youth Night Space facility designed to protect vulnerable young people in the middle of an agricultural precinct has significant unacceptable risks.

#### **1. Inappropriate location and lack of Infrastructure**

The proposed site on Ivanhoe Road opposite the Riverfarm Road intersection is located within an active irrigated agricultural precinct developed specifically for intensive commercial farming operations.

The site lacks essential infrastructure necessary to ensure the safety of youth, including:

- Adequate footpaths
- Sufficient street lighting
- Safe pedestrian access
- Night road verge visibility
- Exposure to chemical spray-drift from nighttime spraying activities
- Lack of amenities within the location structure itself

Ivanhoe Road is one of the most dangerous roads in Kununurra being the sole route triple road trains utilise to access the agricultural area, as Weaber Plains Road is restricted for heavy haulage.

With no lighting, poor verge visibility and a speed limit of 110km/hr freight transport activity including extremely large agricultural machinery traverse the road at all hours making it very hazardous for pedestrians, especially at night-time.

#### **2. Increased Risk to Youth Safety**

Broadacre farming zones are not designed for youth-centred services. The absence of nearby amenities, support services, site isolation and safe public access routes place

already at-risk individuals in further danger, rather than providing for their intended protection.

Lot 235 also adjoins critical irrigation infrastructure servicing commercial farming operations. Irrigation drains, essential control structures and channels with fast flowing water present an unacceptable drowning hazard to youth.

Tampering with calibrated irrigation control regulators will damage the supply system and severely impact farming operations and crop production.

### **3. Incompatibility with Surrounding Environment**

Agricultural areas are designed for commercial primary production, not care based services. The presence of heavy operating machinery, transport vehicles, land forming and chemical spraying activities create an environment that is inherently unsafe and unsuitable for youth at this proposed location.

### **4. Impact on Local Farming Operations**

Properties along Ivanhoe Road and in close proximity to Lot 235 house heavy mobile equipment, large fuel storage tanks and workshops containing chemicals, tools and firearms stored in accordance with WAPOL prescribed law.

Being an active operating farming precinct, all manner of equipment and heavy machinery is parked up overnight adjacent Ivanhoe Road and in nearby fields ready for the next day's work. All this machinery is readily accessible to trespassers.

Many properties in the vicinity of Lot 235 Ivanhoe Road have already experienced:

- Break-ins
- Vehicle theft
- Machinery theft
- General theft
- Vandalism
- Property damage
- Personal confrontations

The establishment of a Youth Night Space facility in this outlying isolated agricultural environment raises legitimate concerns regarding increased pressure on local policing, emergency response capability and community safety management.

In addition, the Ivanhoe Road agricultural precinct, together with the rest of the Ord Valley Irrigation Area supports a newly established cotton industry underpinned by substantial financial investment employing and supporting many local Kununurra families.

Arson risk associated with this flammable crop cannot be understated, further reinforcing the unsuitability of locating a restrictive Youth Night Space facility in an intensive agricultural setting.

As recently reported in the Kimberley Echo, the Jasmine Lane Group Home, has suffered increased substance abuse incidents and repeated violence where youths have absconded due to insufficient staffing levels.

Recently a 15-year-old youth was charged with ‘criminal damage by fire and endangering life, health and safety’ by setting fire to the Group Home, further illustrating the very real dangerous threat this proposal introduces if sited at Lot 235 Ivanhoe Road.

Cotton lint burns at sixty degrees Celsius, and if set on fire, thousands of hectares are at risk of loss together with houses, property and people’s lives. If a fire event occurs it will affect the whole Ord Irrigation Area, not just the Ivanhoe Road precinct.

### **Our Position:**

We reiterate that we **support the establishment of a Kununurra Youth Night Space** and recognise its value to the community.

The Shire of Wyndham East Kimberley ‘Town Planning Scheme No. 7 Clause 5.17.1 General Rural Zone Objectives (a) & (b) prohibits any industrial or urban development or land use which may adversely affect agriculture’.

We strongly believe locating a Youth Night Space at Lot 235 Ivanhoe Road will adversely affect agriculture and community members engaged in it. We request further investigation be undertaken to evaluate more suitable locations that better support the objectives of the facility including sites that are:

- Closer to the urban centre
- Closer to existing support services and community infrastructure
- Closer to town for transporting youth
- Closer to town for attending police
- Accessible via safe, well-lit pedestrian pathways
- Located within appropriately zoned community service areas
- Removed from the dangers of traffic and hazards associated with intensive farming operations located in the agricultural precinct

### **Conclusion:**

As affected residents, industry support operators, farmers and ratepayers we urge decision-makers to re-access the suitability of Lot 235 Ivanhoe Road for this proposal and to recognise it is not fit for the stated purpose of ‘a supervised crisis-response site where young people are transported to’.

Decision makers are accountable for the decisions they make and the rigor they apply to the process. If this proposal advances, the whole Ord River Agricultural Sector, which is mostly unaware of the plan, together with support industries will be seriously affected, not just the undersigned.

### **We The Undersigned Petitioners Call For:**


- Immediate reconsideration of the proposed site at Lot 235 Ivanhoe Road
- Exploration of more suitable alternative locations
- Community consultation before proceeding




Name	Signature	Business/Address	Date
GUY HARVEY		BISHOPS TPT	13/5/26
Susanne Smith		Ivanhoe Cafe	13/05/2026
Darryl Smith		Ivanhoe Farm	13/5/26
Daniel James Innes		Innes Farms	13/5/26
WINDY INNES		LOT 254 IVANHOE RD	13/5/26
John McAuliffe		lot 209 RIVERFARM RD	14-5-26
ROBERT HAMMOND		MANSELL TPT	17-5-26
DAVID FLOWER		MANSELL TRANSPORT	14/5/26
JASON CLARK		MANSELL TPT	14/5/26
DAVID DIETRICH		ORD IRRIGATION	14/5/26
Peta McAuliffe		809 RIVERFARM ROAD	14/5/26
PETER DECKER		IVANHOE RD (BACK AVENUE TRANSPORT)	14/5/26
LOUISE YORK		8 Crossing Falls Rd	14/05/26
Kerry York		8 Crossing Falls Rd	14/05/26
Chantel Weir		13 Dianella Way	14.05.26
Hamish Rutherford		33 rearsarch station RD	14/05/26
Trevor Bass		30 rearsarch station RD	14/05/26
SCOTT HARVEY		205 RIVER FARM Rd.	14/05/26
Tarja Harvey		205 RIVER FARM RD	14/05/26
Kiana Whalley		205 Riverfarm rd	14/05/26
Jodie Thompson		658 Mills Rd	15-5-26
DAVID BARNARD		10 WEABER ROAD RD (OLCO)	15-5-26

Name	Business/Address	Signature	Date
Bill & ANDREA	LOT 213 RIVERFARM ROAD.		16/5/26
Brogmus			16/5/26




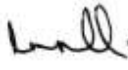






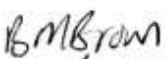

Name	Signature	Business/Address	Date
Michael		Michael Smith Back hoe Hire Lot 566 Ivanhoe Road	17-5-26

Name	Signature	Business/Address	Date
Markos Johns		20 MANGO STREET KUNUNURRA	15-05-26
JOHN FELLOWS		220 RIVER FARM RD.	15-5-26
CHRIS FELLOWS		220 RIVER FARM RD	15/5/26
Amy Mathers		220 River Farm Rd	15.5.26
Alexandre Haller		220 River Farm Rd.	15.5.26
CHAS LANGFORD		12/325 WEABER PLAIN RD	16.5.26
VIVIENNE M'EVY		220 RIVER FARM RD	16.5.26
MICHAEL GROSSE		RIVER FARM RD	16/5/26
Jan Crosse		River farm road	16/5/26
SEVEN M'EVY		River farm rd	16-5-26
BRENDAN JOHNS		LOT 190 BAYDALE APP.	16-5-26

Name	Business/Address	Signature	Date
Mick & Chelsea Kenny	Weaber Plain Road		17.05.26

Name	Business/Address	Signature	Date
Russell Keeley	30 Research ST Road KUNUNURRA	R/Keeley	15/5/26
BRUCE DAVIS	576 PACIFICADLE RD.		17-5-26
WADE MINCHAM	1 BANDICOOT CNR IVANHOE		17/5/26
Brett Cooper	11 Carbeen St		17/5/26
Don Aretta	24 MANNING ST.		17/5/26

Name	Signature	Business/Address	Date
KALVIN FLETCHER		511 RIVERFARM RD KUNUNURRA, WA	15/5/26
MICK SUBINONI		206 RIVERFARM RD KUNU	15/5/26
RUSSELL COOKE		LOT 25, IVANHOE RD KUNUNURRA, WA	15/5/26
APRIL SEARLE		SEARLES AUTOPRO IVANHOE ROAD KUNUNURRA, WA	15/5/26
JO FENNEL		529 Riverfarm Rd	15/5/26
Brooke Ravenscroft		209 Riverfarm Rd <del>XXXXXXXXXX</del>	15/5/26

Name	Signature	Business/Address	Date
DORTE MARIA BOLTEN MAGNAY		Lot 483 RIVERFARM ROAD	16/5/2026.
ZOE CROOT		LOT 1216 RIVERFARM ROAD	16/5/2026
REBECCA McMULLIN		LOT 2 RIVERFARM RD (215)	16/5/26
LUKE McMULLIN		lot 2 RiverFarm Road	16/5/2026
FRANK DATOR QUISTE PANDO		Lot 483 RIVERFARM ROAD	17/5/2026
STEPHEN JONSEN		LOT 102 MILLS ROAD 531 River Farm Rd	17/5/2026
Lily Shorter		531 River Farm Rd	17/5/2026
Richard White		531 River Farm Rd	17/5/2026
Nicholas Bass		Chatman Sam mills rd	17/5/2026
Lachlan Brown		611 Weaber Plain rd	17-5-26
Bianca Brown		611 Weaber Plain Rd	17-05-26
Amanda Purcell		573 River Farm Road	18/05/26

Name	Business/Address	Signature	Date
Silke Sievers	112 Koestral Place KNX WA 6743	Silke Sievers	13/5/26
Josh Hecker	8 Koalman ct	[Signature]	13/5/26
Katie Neve	254 Ivanhoe Road, KNX WA	[Signature]	13/5/26
Steven Neve	"	[Signature]	13/5/26
Erin Neve	"	Erin	13/5/26
Finn Neve	"	FINN	13/5/26
Nicole Bowman	214 Riverfarm Rd KNX	Nicole	13/5/26
HOWARD JAMES	217 RIVERFARM RD Kun	[Signature]	14/5/26
Tace James	217 River Farm rd	T. James	14/5/26
MRS LESLEY JAMES	P.O. BOX 1060 KUNUNURRA	L. James	14/5/26
Jess Maxwell	PO Box 570 Kununurra (Mills Rd Kununurra)	[Signature]	14/5/26
Tim Robertson	PO box 1169 Kununurra	Tim	14/5/26
HENDRIKHOLLER	PRox 1139 "	[Signature]	14/5/26
GEOFF JOHNS.	220 RIVERFARM Rd KNX	[Signature]	15/5/26
Ben Hellsten	14 Carpentaria Street	[Signature]	15/5/26
Ann Innes	Finney Holdings ?/L 1045 IVANHOE RD KNX 6743	[Signature]	15/5/26