



ADAM HORT MLA

MEMBER FOR **KALAMUNDA**

3 September 2026

Mayor Margaret Thomas JP
Mr Anthony Vuleta
Chief Executive Officer
City of Kalamunda

Dear Mayor Thomas and Mr Vuleta

REQUEST FOR FORMAL SUPPORT FOR PERMANENT MINING AVOIDANCE ZONES

I am seeking the City of Kalamunda's formal support for permanent protection from all future exploration and mining across the relevant areas of the City.

I previously wrote to the Hon Roger Cook MLA in his then capacity as Minister for State Development, Trade and Investment and Economic Diversification.

In that letter, I requested permanent protection for Lesmurdie, Pickering Brook, Sawyers Valley and Mundaring from future exploration, drilling or mining, including through their exclusion from the future operation of Alcoa's State Agreement.

The Premier responded on 12 August 2026, after responsibility for the State Development portfolio had transferred to the Hon David Michael MLA. I have enclosed both my original letter and the Premier's response.

Despite the specific nature of my request, the Premier did not commit to including any land within the City of Kalamunda in a Mining Avoidance Zone. This was disappointing.

His response referred generally to Alcoa considering a broader range of Mining Avoidance Zones covering heritage, social amenity, environmental and water catchment values. He also advised that he had asked Alcoa to work with relevant government agencies to excise all Mining Avoidance Zones from Mineral Lease 1SA.

However, he did not confirm whether Lesmurdie, Pickering Brook or the surrounding forests within the City would be included, whether they would be permanently excised from ML1SA or when any decision would be made.

I am therefore writing separately to the current Minister for State Development to renew this request and seek a definitive decision.



(08) 9293 4747



adam.hort@mp.wa.gov.au



adamhort.com.au



Shop 9, 39 Railway Road, Kalamunda WA 6076

At its Special Council Meeting on 12 August 2025, the City Council unanimously objected to Alcoa's exploratory drilling and mining activities in and around the City. Council also requested local government representation in future negotiations concerning State Agreements or mining leases affecting the district.

The strength of the response from the City and the wider community contributed directly to Alcoa withdrawing its immediate exploration plans from the Perth Hills.

That was an important outcome, but it is not permanent protection. The land remains within ML1SA and may be reconsidered under a future Mining and Management Program or another approval process.

Importantly, removing the land from Alcoa's lease must not simply make it available for exploration or mining by another company. The objective should be permanent protection from all future exploration and mining, regardless of the proponent or mineral sought.

These are established Perth Hills communities surrounded by environmentally sensitive forest and important public drinking-water catchments. Their bushland, waterways, biodiversity, rural character and residential amenity are fundamentally incompatible with future mining.

The Government has already supported an 8,344-hectare mining avoidance area around Dwellingup, including restrictions intended to prevent mining by Alcoa or a third party. The same lasting certainty should be provided to the City of Kalamunda.

I therefore request that the City:

1. Formally support permanent, publicly mapped Mining Avoidance Zones over all relevant ML1SA land within the City, including the forests surrounding Lesmurdie and Pickering Brook.
2. Support protections which expressly prohibit all future exploration, investigative drilling, mining, mine pits, access roads and associated infrastructure, regardless of the proponent or mineral sought.
3. Support the permanent excision of the protected land from ML1SA, together with any additional reservation, withdrawal or statutory protection necessary to prevent it becoming available to another mining company.
4. Provide written confirmation of the City's position so that it can be included in my continuing representations to the Minister for State Development.

If the City considers its existing Council resolution sufficient to support this position, written confirmation would be greatly appreciated. If a further resolution is required, I respectfully request that the proposal be presented to Council for consideration.

Our community has successfully stopped the immediate exploration proposal. I am determined to ensure that temporary relief is converted into lasting protection.

A clear and formal position from the City will strengthen the case that the State Government should now provide the certainty our community deserves.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Adam Hort', with a stylized, flowing script.

Adam Hort MLA

Member for Kalamunda

Shadow Minister for Police; Corrective Services; Youth

Encl:

1. Original letter to the then Minister for State Development
2. Response from the Premier dated 12 August 2026