

WA PIGMENT FACTORY (AUSTRALIND) AGREEMENT ACT PROJECT

**974. Hon GIZ WATSON to the Minister for Environment:**

I refer to the project relating to an agreement ratified by the Western Australian Pigment Factory (Australind) Agreement Act 1986, hereafter referred to as “the project” and “the agreement”.

- (1) Is the agreement still in force?
- (2) If yes to (1), who is the current party to the agreement, given that SCM Chemicals Ltd has now been wound up and deregistered?
- (3) If no to (1), has another agreement been made in its place, and with whom?
- (4) What is the total amount of financial and in-kind support that the government has invested in the project to date including, but not limited to, its obligations under the agreement?
- (5) Is the government currently leasing the Australind plant to Millennium Inorganic Chemicals Ltd, as suggested by section 13A of the agreement?
- (6) Can the minister confirm that all the wastewater of the Dalyellup Waste Residue Disposal Facility originates from the Kemerton and Australind plants, as stated on page 6 of MIC’s 2008 Dalyellup annual assessment report?
- (7) If yes to (5), does the government have a financial interest in the continuation of the site?
- (8) If yes to (5) and/or (7), does this amount to a conflict of interest in assessing the current licence application by MIC for the continued operation of the site?

**Hon DONNA FARAGHER replied:**

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1)-(5) This question should be referred to the Minister for State Development as he has responsibility for state agreements.
- (6) Yes. Information provided by Millennium Inorganic Chemicals’ 2008 annual assessment report for the Dalyellup facility states that the waste stored at Dalyellup originates from the Kemerton and Australind plants.
- (7) See answer to (1)-(5).
- (8) No. The Department of Environment and Conservation does not have a conflict of interest in terms of its environmental responsibilities where there is a state agreement in place for licensed premises. In making decisions on licences the chief executive officer of the Department of Environment and Conservation has regard only to his obligations under, and the purposes of, the Environmental Protection Act 1986.