

MINING, SUPERPIT, EXPANSION

733. Ms ANWYL to the Minister for the Environment:

I refer to the planned proposal of the Kalgoorlie Consolidated Gold Mines to expand the western wall of the Superpit and ask -

- (a) what requirements does the Minister or the Ministers department have in relation to an environmental assessment of this;
- (b) is that assessment being carried out;
- (c) what opportunities will interested community members have to make submissions to the inquiry; and
- (d) will submissions be made public?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

- (a-d) The Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) assessed a proposal by Kalgoorlie Consolidated Gold Mines in 1991 for expansion of the open-cut mining operations on the Fimiston mining leases, now referred to as the Superpit. This included an expansion of the western wall. This proposal was approved on the 24 October, 1991 and the implementation of this proposal is subject to conditions set by the Minister for the Environment. Any proposal to substantially vary mining operations from that currently approved would need to be referred to the EPA for a decision on whether further assessment was required and the form and content of the assessment.