

ELLENBROOK AND TWIN SWAMPS WILDLIFE SANCTUARIES, LOT SIZES

350. Hon DERRICK TOMLINSON to the minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage:

- (1) Did the Department of Environmental Protection recommend to the Western Australian Planning Commission that subdivision of landholdings in the vicinity of the Ellenbrook Wildlife Sanctuary and/or the Twin Swamps Wildlife Sanctuary be restricted to eight hectares minimum lot size?
- (2) If yes, why was the minimum lot size of eight hectares recommended?
- (3) Does the Department of Environmental Protection have policies or guidelines for -
 - (i) land use, including management of animal stock or beasts of burden;
 - (ii) effluent management and disposal; and
 - (iii) minimisation of fire risk on such lots?
- (4) Will the minister table those guidelines?

Hon TOM STEPHENS replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1) No. The DEP provided the Ministry for Planning with an interpretation of the original Draft Environmental Protection (Western Swamp Tortoise Habitat) Policy of July 1994, which equated to an average lot size of 10 hectares. The DEP did, however, support the Ministry for Planning's recommendation of an eight-hectare minimum lot size.
- (2) See (1) above.
- (3) Yes.
 - (i) EPA 1998 Second Draft Environmental Protection (Western Swamp Tortoise Habitat) Policy; extract 7.4 from EPA 1997 Guidelines for Environment and Planning, Preliminary Policy No 33;
 - (ii) extract 4.2 from EPA 1997 Guidelines for Environment and Planning, Preliminary Policy No 33 etc;
 - (iii) EPA 1998 Second Draft Environmental Protection (Western Swamp Tortoise Habitat) Policy.
- (4) Yes, which I now seek leave to table.

Leave granted. [See paper No 540.]