

WATER CORPORATION — MINNIVALE RESERVOIR — ASBESTOS

**952. Mr D.J. KELLY to the Minister for Water:**

I refer the minister to her admission on Tuesday in this house that 138 people, not 88, have been exposed to asbestos by the Water Corporation during the refurbishment of the Minnivale reservoir.

- (1) Of the additional 50 people, how many are Water Corporation employees or contractors, and how many are members of the public?
- (2) Where is the asbestos sheeting that was removed from the site, and was it disposed of in a manner appropriate for asbestos?

**Ms M.J. DAVIES replied:**

- (1)–(2) I thank the member for the question. I think I made myself perfectly clear in saying that I was not going to provide a report to this house until such time as the Water Corporation had completed its investigation and reported to WorkSafe Western Australia. The investigation is currently underway. The reason that the number increased from the first time we spoke about this in the house, as I explained earlier in the week, is that the Water Corporation has cast a very wide net, and has been working with contractors and anyone who may have visited that site to ensure that everyone is aware that they may have been exposed to asbestos. We do not resile from the seriousness of this incident. The report will be provided to WorkSafe, which is the appropriate body to work with, and in the interim we are working through making sure that there are processes within the corporation to ensure that this does not happen again.