

SPOILBANK MARINA — PORT HEDLAND

**774. Ms J. FARRER to the Premier:**

I refer to the McGowan Labor government's commitment to the Spoilbank marina, a project the people of Port Hedland have long called for but was never delivered by the previous Liberal–National government. Can the Premier outline to the house how the certainty this government has been able to deliver with the management of dust at Port Hedland will now allow the project to proceed and help create jobs across the Pilbara?

**Mr M. McGOWAN replied:**

I thank the member for Kimberley for the question. Yesterday was a great day for the Town of Port Hedland and for the future of that community. I was very pleased to go there with the member for Pilbara, who was there with me, and the Minister for Regional Development, delivering for the people of Port Hedland. Yesterday, we released the plans for the new Spoilbank marina. We hope to get construction underway as soon as we possibly can, bearing in mind that we have to go through some planning and other engineering requirements and the like. It will provide opportunities for up to 45 boat pens; a two-lane boat ramp; a dry dock area for the yacht club; open spaces; retail and commercial pop-ups; improved access; great parking facilities for people in the Pilbara who own cars, trailers, boats and four-wheel drives; better and safer access to the ocean for boats; and, if we look at the drawings, even some great swimming right next to the marina. I was there yesterday with the Mayor of Port Hedland. He had this to say, and I quote —

But what it also does, is it creates an amenity that we haven't seen before in Port Hedland and it creates the potential to ... develop tourism, to develop other small businesses ... around that precinct, and create jobs for Port Hedland, and create a liveability in our area that we have never seen before.

Camilo Blanco, the Mayor of Port Hedland, is so supportive and positive about a good plan for his community. This government will deliver that plan for the people of Hedland who deserve something decent and a good social and economic opportunity for their town. As I said yesterday, five per cent of Australia's wealth comes out of that port. The people of Port Hedland are deserving of something decent out of this.

We also released the government's response to the Port Hedland dust report. The dust report was commissioned in 2009, nearly 10 years ago, by the former government. It received the dust report and did not release it, so this government will release the report. We have compiled a response and are going to ensure that the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation is responsible for air quality monitoring in the area, which the local community has called for; put in place a range of changes to planning in the west end; and make sure that there is an improvement plan put over the west end so that it is operated by the Western Australian Planning Commission. I acknowledge the hard work of the member for Pilbara who understands fundamentally that the Pilbara relies upon jobs, investment, certainty and quality of life.

Several members interjected.

**Mr M. McGOWAN:** Honestly, you are so negative.

The decision we have made here today to progress both those issues—the response to the dust report and the development of the Spoilbank marina—is a great day in the history of Port Hedland and a great day for the economic future of Western Australia.