

GNARABUP WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANT, COAST AND CLEAN SEAS GRANT

1465. Hon BARRY HOUSE to the Minister for Government Enterprises:

- (1) Will the minister confirm that a \$250 000 Coast and Clean Seas grant linked to the satisfactory disposal of treated effluent from the Gnarabup waste water treatment plant can be accessed only until 30 June this year?
- (2) Will the minister advise whether the Water Corporation will take up the grant in relation to the Gnarabup waste water treatment plant?
- (3) If not, why not?
- (4) Is the minister satisfied that waste water from the plant is not entering the marine environment at Gnarabup and nearby beaches through fractured limestone?
- (5) Will the minister state that there is no public health risk to beach users and surfers in the area?

Hon N.D. GRIFFITHS replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1) I am advised that the cut-off date is 30 September 2002.
- (2) The Water Corporation advises that it will not take up the grant in relation to the Gnarabup waste water treatment plant.
- (3) Apart from the Water Corporation, the original consortium members, the golf club, the local developer and the shire retracted or reduced their commitment to the project made under the Coast and Clean Seas submission. The current disposal method is operationally, economically and environmentally sound.
- (4) The Water Corporation advises that consistent with its Department of Environmental Protection licence, only highly treated effluent that has had the majority of the nitrogen removed is discharged into the infiltration lagoons at the waste water treatment plant.
- (5) The Water Corporation advises that if this highly treated waste water does enter the marine environment it will not result in any public health risk.