

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION (COST RECOVERY) REGULATIONS 2021

799. Hon TJORN SIBMA to the minister representing the Minister for Environment:

I refer to the consultation draft of the Environmental Protection (Cost Recovery) Regulations 2021, dated September 2021.

- (1) On what dates, with whom, and via what means, did the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation provide and then discuss the contents of the proposed regulations with stakeholders?
- (2) What issues were raised with DWER during these consultations?
- (3) When does the government intend to gazette these new regulations and when are they anticipated to come into effect?

Hon STEPHEN DAWSON replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

- (1) The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation commenced consultation on implementing cost recovery for part IV of the Environmental Protection Act 1986 on 20 September 2021. A discussion paper and draft regulations were published on DWER's website when the consultation commenced.

DWER provided detailed briefings to the Conservation Council of Western Australia, the Environmental Defenders Office, the Chamber of Minerals and Energy of Western Australia, the Australian Petroleum Production and Exploration Association, the Western Australian Local Government Association, the Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand, the Environmental Consultants Association (WA), the Association of Mining and Exploration Companies, and the Urban Development Institute of Australia Western Australia Division Incorporated. These briefings occurred on 30 September, and 1, 5 and 12 October 2021.
- (2) DWER is still undertaking consultation on cost recovery for part IV of the EP act. The consultation period closes on 22 October 2021. The department will publish a consultation summary report setting out the key issues raised.
- (3) The timing of finalising the regulations is subject to the outcome of the consultation and will be a decision of the government. DWER is working towards the regulations being finalised and fees coming into effect at the beginning of 2022.