

TAMALA PARK, LANDFILL CELL

83. Mrs EDWARDES to the Minister for the Environment and Heritage:

- (1) Has the minister or the chief executive officer approved Mindarie Regional Council's application for a second landfill cell at Tamala Park?
- (2) If yes, or no, is this approval conditional upon the resolution of all member local government councils of the Mindarie Regional Council to proceed with the proposed waste recycling and processing plant, with a commitment to a tight time frame and to funding?
- (3) Have all member local government councils of the Mindarie Regional Council resolved to proceed with the proposed waste recycling and processing plant to replace the reliance on landfill?
- (4) If not, who is still to resolve?
- (5) What is the life span of the current landfill cell?
- (6) What is the expectant life span of the proposed second landfill cell?
- (7) If the new plant is to be operational by 2004, why is it necessary to have a second landfill cell?
- (8) What is the latest report on the environmental impact of the current landfill cell and in particular in respect to leaching?

Dr EDWARDS replied:

- (1)-(2) No.
- (3) No, however the Mindarie Regional Council, which has council representatives from all the member local government councils, has advised that on 15 February 2001 it resolved to adopt an implementation plan for the establishment of a secondary waste treatment plant in the Mindarie region. The implementation plan aims to commission a secondary waste treatment plant by 2004.
- (4) The MRC has advised that its member councils have not made individual resolutions.
- (5) Recent estimates provided by the MRC indicate that current (Stage 1) landfill will reach capacity by June 2003.
- (6) Recent estimates provided by the MRC of the expectant life span of the second landfill (Stage 2) vary from 2013 to 2037 depending on the technologies used to treat the waste and the quantity of waste diverted from landfill.
- (7) A second (Stage 2) landfill is required to accept waste -
  - (i) while secondary waste treatment is being fully implemented by the MRC;
  - (ii) which is not amenable to secondary waste treatment or recycling;
  - (iii) in the event of treatment plant down time; and
  - (iv) that cannot be recycled after secondary waste treatment.
- (8) The latest report provided by the MRC in March 2001 on the environmental impact of the current cell relates to ground water monitoring conducted by the CSIRO from March 2000 to February 2001. The monitoring data indicates that nutrient leaching is the significant ground water impact at the premises and that the ground water to the west of the landfill at Marmion Avenue may now be being impacted by the leachate. Any approval for a landfill in Stage 2 of Tamala Park will therefore require that the landfill is fully lined with an appropriate leachate collection system.