

KERALUP SITE — ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AUTHORITY REPORT

**419. Hon SALLY TALBOT to the minister representing the Minister for Environment:**

The 2008 Environmental Protection Authority report on development of the Keralup site identified eight significant environmental constraints: surface and groundwater; wetlands; remnant vegetation; soil and groundwater contamination, including potential for acid sulfate soils; significant fauna; noise; odour; and mosquitoes. The EPA's advice was —

Should Government decide to develop this site then further substantial environmental investigations would need to be carried out as well as extensive liaison with all relevant technical agencies.

- (1) What investigations have been carried out by the minister's agencies since the EPA report?
- (2) What ongoing work is the minister and his agencies involved in relating to the Keralup development?
- (3) What is the current status of environmental planning and assessments for the Keralup project?

**Hon HELEN MORTON replied:**

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1)–(2) The Department of Housing is the proponent for the Keralup project. In June 2008, the then Minister for Housing and Works advised Parliament that environmental consultants had been appointed to undertake further investigations, and that a technical advisory group, including representation from environmental agencies, had been established to guide the studies.
- (3) The Department of Housing and Works then referred the Keralup master plan to the EPA. It wrote to the EPA on 18 May 2010, indicating that it intended to pursue environmental assessment under section 48A of the Environmental Protection Act 1986, as an assessment of the metropolitan region scheme and that re-zoning would proceed in three stages. The EPA has determined that the metropolitan region scheme amendment to re-zone stage 1—west Keralup—from rural to urban deferred should not be assessed because the potential environmental impacts are of a type that can be adequately managed through the planning process, in consultation with the Department of Environment and Conservation, the Department of Water, and other relevant agencies when appropriate. The balance of the Keralup development area continues to be the subject of a strategic environmental assessment by the EPA.