

LANDFILL LEVY INCREASE — WASTE AUTHORITY RECOMMENDATION

581. Hon SALLY TALBOT to the Minister for Environment:

I refer the minister to the increase in the landfill levy announced in the budget and to the article in today's *The West Australian* entitled "Landfill levy opens can of worms on recycling".

- (1) Was the minister aware before the government announced the increase that the Waste Authority had recently recommended a 100 per cent rise in the cost of inert landfill?
- (2) Can the minister confirm that she sent a letter to the chairman of the Waste Authority, Mr Barry Carbon, the day after the budget was announced requesting as a matter of urgency that he seek a recommendation from the Waste Authority to the Governor in Executive Council to increase the levy to \$28 a tonne for liable putrescible landfill sites and \$12 a cubic metre for liable inert landfill sites?

Hon DONNA FARAGHER replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1)-(2) Yes, I was aware of that; and, yes, I did write to the chairman of the Waste Authority to ask him to give effect to the position of the government on the 300 per cent increase that was announced in the budget. Yes, I did write that letter; and, yes, I was aware of the previous advice.