

PARTIAL REVOCATION OF STATE FOREST NOS 4, 7, 14, 16, 22, 32, 33, 35, 54, 58, 63 AND 65

Motion

Resumed from an earlier stage of the sitting.

DR EDWARDS (Maylands) [7.01 pm]: The Opposition supports this motion. The 10 proposals in this motion, which cover 334 hectares of land in 12 state forests, deal with road resumptions. Since the minister made her speech this morning, I have had an opportunity to have a briefing and to undertake some consultation. The minister outlined the need for these revocations, which deal with changes to the Land Administration Act 1997 and with roads that already exist. I will comment on five of the areas.

The first area is the widening of Great Eastern Highway between Mundaring and Sawyers Valley. Many people who drive on that highway appreciate the widening that is occurring. It was obvious for a long time that the road needed to be improved. The Opposition supports that revocation, which will fit in with the widening of the road at that point. Similarly, with state forest No 14, which is south east of Dwellingup, a sensible revocation is being undertaken to make a corner safer for land-holders who live nearby. The Opposition notes that as part of the revocation of area four - state forest No 16 - which deals with land going to the highway, additions will occur to Yalgorup National Park. The Opposition is pleased that where land is taken, it seems that land is put back where it is needed. There is an interesting history to area five - state forest No 22. This revocation of state forest will allow a track that already exists to be formalised. There is a rather quaint story behind this revocation. During or after World War II, a timber cutter acquired some land in the middle of the state forest near Jarrahdale. He built a track, but until this revocation, it was never formalised. Obviously, things like that must be formalised. Area number eight - state forest No 35 - also involves a sharp bend, this time in a road near Pinjar, and that road problem has been sorted out. The scenario could have been contentious, but it does not seem to have been. Obviously, for safety reasons, it needed to be sorted out. The Opposition supports this motion.

MRS EDWARDES (Kingsley - Minister for the Environment) [7.04 pm]: I acknowledge the cooperation of the member for Maylands. These revocations were brought to the House at short notice and I sincerely apologise to her, and to the House, for that. As the member indicated, a number of these issues are formalisations of roads that already exist or they must be done because of changes to the Land Administration Act. Some issues have been outstanding for a long time. I reiterate my thanks to the member for Maylands for her cooperation and comments.

Question put and passed.

On motion by Mrs Edwardes (Minister for the Environment), resolved -

That the resolution be transmitted to the Council and its concurrence desired therein.