

CRISTAL GLOBAL PLANT — CONTAMINATION

5731. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Mental Health representing the Minister for Environment

In relation to the Cristal Global plant located on government land at Lot 4 Old Coast Road Australind, I ask —

- (1) Is this site monitored by the Department of Conservation and Environment (DEC)?
- (2) If no to (1), why not?
- (3) Has the Minister any evidence that the company has commenced rehabilitation of the contaminated areas on the site?
- (4) What steps has DEC taken to ensure that remediation and rehabilitation is taking place on this site?
- (5) Is the Government considering applying an environmental bond on Cristal Globe to safeguard against long term contamination?
- (6) If no to (5), why not?

Hon HELEN MORTON replied:

- (1)–(2) The chemical manufacturing plant at Lot 4 Old Coast Road, Australind is licensed under Part V of the Environmental Protection Act 1986 and is also classified contaminated — remediation required under the Contaminated Sites Act 2003. The Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) monitors compliance with the licence conditions and also monitors progress with contamination investigations and remediation.
- (3) The licensee reports on progress with its contaminated groundwater recovery and treatment program in its Annual Environmental Report, submitted in accordance with its licence conditions.
- (4) Prior to the commencement of the Contaminated Sites Act, the premises' licence included reporting requirements on the groundwater recovery and treatment program. Contamination investigation and remediation at the site are now regulated under the Contaminated Sites Act, and DEC monitors progress with these works.
- (5) No
- (6) The licensee has taken voluntary action since 1978 to recover and treat contaminated groundwater, indicating that a financial assurance need not be applied in this instance. DEC will ensure that the licensee continues to make satisfactory progress with investigation, remediation, management and monitoring of contamination at the site.