

DEPARTMENT OF WATER — PARMELIA AQUIFER DRAWDOWN

**823. Hon MATT BENSON-LIDHOLM to the minister representing the Minister for Water:**

I refer to the Department of Water's decision to grant a licence for the drawdown of five gigalitres of fresh, potable water from the Parmelia aquifer for a mining project east of Mingenew.

- (1) Is the minister completely confident that the licence conditions set by the department on Karara Mining–Gindalbie Metals would prevent any adverse impact on the aquifer from the mining companies' drawdown?
- (2) If yes, what specific licence conditions will prevent an adverse impact on the aquifer?
- (3) What penalties, if any, are in place in the licence conditions and will apply if Karara Mining–Gindalbie Metals are found to have an adverse impact on the Parmelia aquifer?
- (4) Is a copy of the full licence, with all conditions and penalties, publicly available; and, if not, why not and, if yes, where can it be obtained?

**Hon HELEN MORTON replied:**

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

- (1) Yes.
- (2) The licensee is required to undertake aquifer monitoring as a condition of the licence.
- (3) The provisions to enforce penalties are stated within the Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914.
- (4) No; the only publicly available information can be accessed using the Department of Water's online licence register.