

WATER CORPORATION — MINNIVALE RESERVOIR — ASBESTOS

953. Mr D.J. KELLY to the Minister for Water:

I have a supplementary question. Is it correct that the asbestos was disposed of at the Northam landfill site in a manner not consistent with the disposal of asbestos; and, secondly, that people beyond the Minnivale reservoir site are included in that 138, so there has been an exposure to members of the general public?

Ms M.J. DAVIES replied:

I am not quite sure which bit of my answer the member does not understand. An investigation is underway —
Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Members!

Ms M.J. DAVIES: An investigation is underway —

Mr D.J. Kelly interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Bassendean, I call you now for the second time. Minister, quick answer, thanks.

Ms M.J. DAVIES: I am very happy to provide a quick answer, Mr Speaker. An investigation is underway.

Ms J.M. Freeman interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Mirrabooka!

Ms M.J. DAVIES: I can confirm at this point that the asbestos was disposed of at the Northam tip. That site is set up for asbestos disposal. How it has been disposed of is part of the investigation. We do not resile from the fact that there has been a breakdown in process that has exposed a number of people to asbestos. That is no secret. We are not hiding anything from anyone. An investigation is underway. It is a serious issue. We will provide that information to WorkSafe when it is completed.

Mr D.J. Kelly interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Bassendean, I call you to order for the third time.