

BEELIAR WETLANDS — ROE HIGHWAY STAGE 8

235. Hon SALLY TALBOT to the Minister for Environment:

I refer the minister to the Environmental Protection Authority advice about Roe Highway stage 8 that stated in part —

...the overall impacts of construction within the alignment, or any alignment through the Beeliar Regional Park in the vicinity of North Lake and Bibra Lake, would lead to the ecological values of the area as a whole being diminished in the long-term. Every effort should be made to avoid this.

- (1) Is the minister aware of this advice?
- (2) If yes to (1), is she acting on this advice and making every effort to avoid this?

Hon DONNA FARAGHER replied:

I thank the member for her question.

- (1)-(2) Hon Sally Talbot might remember that she asked me a question about this last year and I think she referred to that same quote. Therefore, yes, I am aware of that Environmental Protection Authority report. As I have said in the previous questions that I have answered in regard to this matter, I know Main Roads and the Minister for Transport are aware of the concerns that have been raised with respect to the environment and that includes —

Several members interjected.

The PRESIDENT: Order! I am having difficulty hearing the Minister for Environment because of unnecessary interjections. I hope Hansard is able to hear what the minister is saying.

Hon DONNA FARAGHER: That includes the EPA report that was released a couple of years ago. As I have said, Main Roads and the Minister for Transport are aware of these issues and this is being looked at in the context of the development of the proposal.