

COCKBURN SOUND — CANOLA SPILL

**1434. Hon RICK MAZZA to the minister representing the Minister for Environment:**

- (1) Can the minister advise whether the Department of Environment Regulation is aware of any ship having lost a quantity of cargo in Cockburn Sound recently?
- (2) If yes to (1) —
  - (a) can the minister confirm that the cargo was canola;
  - (b) can the minister confirm that the department is aware that pesticides also may have been carried by the ship in relation to the canola cargo; and
  - (c) is the minister aware of reports of swimmers experiencing adverse reactions after swimming in Cockburn Sound?

**Hon HELEN MORTON replied:**

I thank the member for some notice of the question.

- (1) Yes. The Department of Environment Regulation advises that some canola grain was spilled onto the Kwinana grain jetty during ship loading between 18 and 22 November 2015. Although this was cleaned up by Co-operative Bulk Handling Ltd, some may have entered Cockburn Sound.
- (2)
  - (a) Yes.
  - (b) The Department of Environment Regulation is unable to advise what other cargo was carried by the ship. Analysis results of grain from this vessel from the commonwealth Department of Agriculture and Water Resources indicates no pesticides present in the samples taken.
  - (c) Yes.