

WATER RESOURCES, QUINNINUP

1318. Hon Barry House to the Minister for Local Government and Regional Development representing the Minister for the Environment

- (1) Is the Minister aware that there are serious concerns regarding a quality water supply at Quinninup?
- (2) What are the organisms which could contaminate this water supply without any further treatment?
- (3) Are there any alternative water supplies apart from Quinninup Lake?
- (4) What is the cost of this alternative(s)?
- (5) Is the alternative source(s) uncontaminated?
- (6) Is tertiary treatment of water from Quinninup Lake the safest option?
- (7) What is the cost of tertiary treatment?
- (8) When will the work be undertaken to ensure this water supply is safe for Quinninup residents?

Hon TOM STEPHENS replied:

The Minister for the Environment has provided the following response:

- (1) The concerns are generally about the aesthetic quality of the water – ie colour, odour and feel. The water meets all current health requirements and analyses are monitored by the Department of Health to ensure these levels are maintained. However, current land use within the catchment is of concern, particularly the fact that many of the blocks around the reservoir have septic tanks. In addition, the reluctance of many of the residents to restrict recreation activities on the reservoir may also degrade water quality in the long term.
- (2) The Water Corporation has advised that the approved Water Source Protection Plan together with current water treatment at Quinninup is adequate to provide protection against likely contaminants such as bacteria and protozoa.
- (3) The Water Corporation has advised that a desktop study reviewing alternative groundwater and surface water source options for Quinninup has been completed.
- (4)-(8) These questions should be referred to the Minister for Government Enterprises.