

SOUTH COAST MARINE PARK

**904. Mr P.J. RUNDLE to the Minister for Fisheries:**

I have a supplementary question. Given the comments from the minister's own department criticising some of these issues, does he accept some responsibility that this flawed consultation process has placed serious emotional pressures upon south coast families whose livelihoods may be impacted by targets set by foreign overseas lobby groups?

Several members interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Order, please! I am waiting to give the minister the call.

**Mr D.T. PUNCH replied:**

I recall the Premier being asked this question a while back. He made it very clear that departments engage in debate with each other on so many issues. I engaged in debate when I was a CEO at the South West Development Commission. In fact, I remember engaging in debate with the Great Southern Development Commission that the member was a chair of! I am sure that he would not like some of those debates put out into the public realm well after the issue has been debated. The comments that the member is referring to were from very early in the process. He has put them out there with his colleagues and implied that that is the current state of play. This is an intricate process. Departments will have robust debates. I expect them to have good debates, but I expect them to work collaboratively and reach a conclusion. It will happen when the Minister for Environment receives advice from his department and it is conveyed to me to seek the advice of my department. That is how the government works, something that the member is clearly not capable of understanding.