

TOODYAY, PHENOL CONTAMINATION OF PROPERTIES

53. Mrs C.L. Edwardes to the Minister for the Environment and Heritage

I refer the Minister to the Phenol (Wood Tar) contamination of properties in the Toodyay area and the groundwater monitoring that is taking place and ask -

- (a) has groundwater monitoring taken place 'down-stream' of the contaminated properties;
- (b) how far down stream will the monitoring for Phenol contamination take place; and
- (c) how long will the monitoring continue?

Dr J.M. EDWARDS replied:

- a) Yes, monitoring bores have been installed downstream of the contaminated plume. Additionally domestic bores within the area have been monitored to address concerns of members within the community. The local creek is also monitored.
- b) To date no groundwater contamination has been found on any of the properties neighbouring the contaminated properties. Should monitoring indicate that the plume has migrated, additional monitoring bores will be installed as necessary.
- c) Six monthly monitoring of the plume will continue until the Department of Environmental Protection is confident that the contamination poses no risk to the environment or public health. Specific details of the on-going management of the groundwater will be provided in the Groundwater Management Plan, which will be prepared as part of the remediation project.