

LITHIUM MINING — GREENBUSHES — BYPASS ROAD

**1275. Hon DIANE EVERS to the minister representing the Minister for Transport:**

I refer to the “Greenbushes Lithium Mine Expansion: Environmental Referral Supporting Report”, which was submitted to the Environmental Protection Authority in July 2018. It states that consultation is in progress with Main Roads WA and the Shire of Bridgetown–Greenbushes about a suitable route for a bypass road between the mine access points and South Western Highway.

- (1) Has an optimal route for the bypass road been determined?
- (2) If yes to (1), what is the route and what criteria were used to determine it?
- (3) If no to (1), what routes are under consideration and what criteria are being used to make the decision?
- (4) What negative effects of any potential route have been identified that may impact on Greenbushes Pool, and what actions will be undertaken to mitigate them?
- (5) If negotiations between the rail operator and the mine operator agree to the use of rail transport with a spur line to the mine, what are the implications and requirements for this road?
- (6) What is the expected cost of the bypass road?

**Hon STEPHEN DAWSON replied:**

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

- (1)–(6) The bypass road is a local government road; therefore, Main Roads has not been involved in discussions about the route between the mine access points and South Western Highway. Main Roads’ only involvement has been in preliminary discussions about possible locations for the connection of the bypass road to South Western Highway. No decision has yet been made on a final location for the connection of the bypass road to South Western Highway.