

LUDLOW TUART FOREST — LAND SURROUNDING SAND MINE

3171. Dr S.C. Thomas to the Minister for the Environment

I refer to the land surrounding the sand mine in the Ludlow Tuart Forest managed by the Department of Environment and Conservation and ask:

- (a) is there a management plan for this area;
 - (i) if not, why not?
- (b) is this a five year plan;
 - (i) if not, why not?
- (c) will the Minister provide a copy of any management plan to the Member for Capel?
- (d) what funding has been provided to manage this land, and what is it being spent?

Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN replied:

- (a) No.
 - (i) The preparation of a draft management plan for the Tuart Forest National Park has commenced. A departmental planning team and a community advisory committee have been formed to assist with preparation of the draft management plan.
- (b) No.
 - (i) The management plan will be for a duration of 10 years, or until it is replaced with another management plan.
- (c) The Member for Capel will be forwarded a copy of the draft management plan when it is available.
- (d) The Department of Environment and Conservation has various sources of funding for this area, including Tuart Conservation Initiative funds (\$100 000), Ludlow sand mining offset funds (\$730 000), funding for rehabilitation of unmined sections of the mining lease (\$750 000) and recurrent funds (part of the Department's Blackwood District allocation). Expenditure of these funds for visitor facilities and rehabilitation and restoration works has commenced. Recurrent funds have also been allocated to a range of land management activities, including mine rehabilitation, weed and feral animal control, firebreak establishment and maintenance, management planning, visitor facilities maintenance and liaison with mine operators.