

SHIRE OF CUBALLING - PERMIT FOR ROAD CONSTRUCTION WORKS

2108. Dr S.C. Thomas to the Minister for the Environment

- (1) When can the Shire of Cuballing expect to be issued a Purpose Clearing Permit from the Department of Environment and Conservation for new road construction works throughout the district?
- (2) Why has it taken in excess of seven months for the Purpose Clearing Permit to be issued to the Shire of Cuballing when the process should only take 90 days?

Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN replied:

- (1) The Shire of Cuballing was issued with a purpose permit to clear native vegetation for the purpose of road upgrades on 21 December 2006.
- (2) It did not take seven months for the Shire of Cuballing's purpose permit to be issued. The Department of Environment and Conservation has a target timeframe of 90 days to process Local Government Purpose Permits. The time taken to process this application was approximately 108 days (3 ½ months) due to the complexity of the application and an amendment sought by the Shire during the process.

Following the commencement of the purpose permit in December 2006, the Department of Environment and Conservation has been providing the Shire with advice to assist in compliance with the conditions of the permit.