

LITHIUM RAIL SUPPLY CHAIN

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

I refer to the south west lithium rail supply chain pre-feasibility report.

- (1) Has the Department of Transport verified the figures and modelling in the report; and, if yes, will the minister please table the report; and, if not, why not?
- (2) Was the option of backhaul of tailings from the Kemerton lithium refinery considered in the report; and, if yes, what were the findings?
- (3) Has the report been considered by the minister; and, if yes, will the minister please provide an update on the likelihood of rail being used for transport from the mine to the refinery, and from the refinery to a waste storage or disposal site; and, if not, when will the minister consider it?

Hon STEPHEN DAWSON replied:

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

- (1)–(2) The proponents of the south west lithium rail supply chain proposal recently shared the pre-feasibility study with the Department of Transport and the Public Transport Authority for consideration. The Department of Transport has conducted a high-level review of the report and ongoing consultation will occur with the proponents as they undertake additional work.
- (3) As only pre-feasibility work has been undertaken, detailed work will be required to fully assess the viability of the proposal.