

HEAVY HAULAGE VEHICLE LICENCES

78. Hon MURRAY CRIDDLE to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure:

I refer to the minister's decision to enforce licences for heavy haulage vehicles to transport iron ore in the mid-west region.

- (1) When the minister decided to implement the licence system, was any consideration given to the planning required by the trucking companies to enable them to manage future contracts with the mining industry?
- (2) If so, is the minister aware that local trucking companies spent a considerable amount of money on upgrading the fleet to meet the requirements of the current contract to transport iron ore? Will they receive some compensation for that expenditure?
- (3) Is the minister aware that the decision to require these licences has caused instability in the trucking industry, particularly for transport companies that are trying, with only short-term security, to attract operators?
- (4) Is this an attempt to pressure the rail companies into upgrading and becoming more competitive?
- (5) If so, what financial commitment has the minister made to rail upgrades to ensure that this happens?
- (6) Who is directly responsible for issuing the licences in future?
- (7) Under what section of the Transport Co-ordination Act did she implement these requirements?

Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question. On behalf of the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure, I provide the following response -

- (1)-(7) Given the length and complexity of the question, the minister has asked that this question be placed on notice.