

ENVIRONMENTAL RECOVERY SERVICES LTD, CONDITIONS OF LICENCE

**295. Hon JIM SCOTT to the minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage:**

- (1) What is the maximum number of 204-litre drums that Environmental Recovery Services Ltd of Carole Road, Maddington is permitted to hold on site under its current Department of Environmental Protection licence?
- (2) What is the maximum total volume of flammable and hazardous liquids that ERS is permitted to hold at any given time under its current DEP licence?
- (3) Are empty 204-litre drums permitted to be stored on site under its current DEP licence?
  - (a) If yes, how many and where are they stored on site?
  - (b) If no, how are they dealt with by ERS?
- (4) Will the minister confirm whether Bickley Brook runs within four metres of the rear fence line of ERS?

**Hon NICK GRIFFITHS replied:**

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1) The licence does not specify a total of drums. The licence states that all environmentally hazardous chemicals, where the total volume of each substance exceeds 250 litres, are to be stored within low permeability compounds that are designed to be chemically resistant to the substances stored, and permit recovery of chemicals following accidents or vandalism. Chemicals that may react dangerously if they come into contact are in separate bunds.
- (2) Answered in (1). No total is specified on the licence. The Department of Mineral and Petroleum Resources regulates the storage of flammable and hazardous liquids.
- (3) The Department of Environmental Protection licence does not cover this. The DEP has advised that cleaned, empty drums are stored on site for reuse or are disposed of by transport to a drum recycling facility.
- (4) No. Bickley Brook does not run within four metres of the rear fence line of ERS. However, there is a local government drain within about five metres of the rear fence, which feeds into Bickley Brook a short distance away.