

DESALINATION PLANT, KWINANA

1893. Hon Jim Scott to the Minister for Local Government and Regional Development representing the Minister for the Environment

- (1) Why is the Government seeking to increase the capacity of the proposed seawater desalination plant at Kwinana?
- (2) Why is the Government refusing to use sustainable energy, such as Natural Power, for this plant?
- (3) Is the Minister aware that desalination plants run on fossil fuels are not consistent with the Government's professed commitment to sustainability?
- (4) Why is the Government not setting an example by using sustainable energy for this project?

Hon TOM STEPHENS replied:

The Minister for the Environment has provided the following response:

- (1)-(2) These questions need to be referred to the Minister for Government Enterprises to provide a response.
- (3) The increased capacity Desal plant would be on the site of the Kwinana Gas Fired Powerstation. The issue of greenhouse gas emission, and other environmental impacts of water source development will be considered by Government and by the Environmental Protection Authority.
- (4) There has been no decision by the Government about the next major water source for the Integrated Water Supply Scheme. When a decision is made, all environmental, social and economic factors will be carefully considered.