

COASTAL DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS, NUMBER AND PLANNING

**34. Hon JIM SCOTT to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure.**

I point out that the first part of this question is a little nonsensical due to the wrong tense being used.

- (1) How many coastal development proposals have been considered by the Department for Planning and Infrastructure? That should have read “are being considered”.
- (2) What planning measures and studies have been undertaken by the Department for Planning and Infrastructure to ensure that future coastal developments will not be inundated by sea level rises caused by enhanced global warming?
- (3) Has the Department for Planning and Infrastructure investigated the extent of liability of the State when approved coastal developments are destroyed by inundation?
- (4) Has the department produced estimates of the cost to the State of protecting coastal developments from inundation?

**Hon KEN TRAVERS replied:**

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1) The member has already noted that this part of the question cannot be answered without some clarification of its intent.
- (2) Our coastal statement of planning policy introduced last year presumes a sea level rise of 0.38 metres. This projection is the Australian Institute of Engineers advice on the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.  
  
The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change is the international body responsible for providing advice and scenarios on climate change to government bodies throughout the world. It also provides regional scenarios to Governments.
- (3)-(4) Liability could arise if the State Government has not acted reasonably. However, in response to possible rising sea levels, the State Government has taken the best available scientific advice on projected sea level rise and that has been entrenched in our statutory planning framework. That is a reasoned and reasonable response to the problem of sea level changes.