

MANJIMUP WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANT, EAST FAMILY DAM

31. Mr P.D. Omodei to the Minister Assisting the Minister for Water Resources

I refer the Minister to the ongoing dispute between the East family of Manjimup and the Water Corporation over claims that the nearby Manjimup Wastewater Treatment Plant is polluting the East's dam, and I ask -

- (a) is the Minister aware of ongoing problems with the Manjimup Wastewater Treatment Plant over a period of approximately one decade, including frequent overflows;
- (b) will the Minister please provide a complete list of all spills or overflows from the Manjimup Wastewater Treatment plant since it was commissioned, including the date of each event, the cause of each event, the quantity of material involved and action taken to address the cause;
- (c) is the Minister aware of complaints made by the East family regarding the impact of effluent flows from the Wastewater Treatment Plant on their nearby dam;
- (d) is the Minister aware that independent analysis of the water in the East's dam has shown the water to be unsuitable for irrigation of horticultural crops due to the fact that the treated effluent water from the plant that collects directly into the dam contains a high level of ammonia and nitrogen;
- (e) is the Minister aware of a claim for compensation lodged by the East family against the Water Corporation for lost profits arising from damage to crops, wasted expenditure on dam construction and the cost of leasing an alternative farming property;
- (f) what action has the Water Corporation taken to resolve the compensation claim made by the east family; and
- (g) given that the dispute between the East's and the Water Corporation has remained unresolved for a number of years, what action will the minister take to resolve the East's claims?

Mr J.C. KOBELKE replied:

- (a)-(g) The matter between the Water Corporation and Mr East regarding the settlement of the claim for the impact of the Wastewater Treatment Plant operations on his dam is in the middle of an ongoing legal proceeding in the Supreme Court and therefore the Corporation is unable to make any comment on the matter.